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Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

Volume XXI, Issue No. 223 | TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 20, 2011 | www.saipantribune.com | 50¢

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OPINION METER

This week's poll:

Based on your current understanding of the CW rule, how would you rate the ease or difficulty it presents to doing business in the Commonwealth?

Let your voice be heard! Go to www.saipantribune.com to cast your vote.

INSIDE

Strong Quake

A strong earthquake shakes India and Nepal, killing at least 16.

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Faces of Poverty

Nearly one in six Americans lives in poverty–a record 46.2 million people.

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SHEFA approves 331 applications, denies 116. PAGE 2

Fitial in China for a week this time. PAGE 3

CEMETERY CLEANUP

Fr. Ryan Jimenez, center, poses with Kagman High School JROTC cadets after the cleanup held Saturday at the Mt. Carmel cemetery in preparation for the upcoming All Souls' Day. The cadets collected thousands of old candles, faded plastic wreaths, weeds, and trash that littered the entire cemetery plots. At far left is KHS senior army instructor MSG James R. Burke.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

See story on Page 6

CRUNCH TIME

Time running out for over 300 CNMI permanent residents, those born in 1974-1978

» Questions for USCIS pile up

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Flordelino Apilado, 72, said yesterday he worries about being deported from the CNMI, which has been his home since April 28, 1976, until he was granted a CNMI permanent resident status in 1985. For 35 of the 37 years he's been here, he worked in the construction industry.

"I am already old, worked for several years and got my CNMI permanent residency but now I am nervous that they will deport me," he said.

Apilado is among the over 300 CNMI permanent residents and those born in the CNMI between Jan. 1, 1974, and Jan. 9, 1978, but whose statuses are not recognized by the federalization law.

Just like many others in the CNMI, Apilado is hoping that the federal government will rec-

See TIME on Page 4

Decision on 'zero accounts,' education funding today

» 10 days to go before shutdown without FY 2012 budget

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

A joint Senate and House committee trying to break the fiscal year 2012 budget deadlock is poised to decide today whether to increase funding for education, Rota, and Tinian, and whether to zero out the 29 lawmakers' individual operational account and the leadership account, among other things.

Taimanao

See DECISION on Page 4

Fund seeks to stop enforcement of Derivative Beneficiaries Act

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The NMI Retirement Fund has asked the Superior Court for a temporary restraining order to stop Gov. Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos from enforcing the controversial Public Law 17-51 that allows Fund beneficiaries to sue on behalf of the pension program if the board refuses to bring such action.

The Fund, through counsel Carolyn M. Kern, also asked the court to stop the Superior Court's clerk of court from accepting any lawsuit filed pursuant to Public Law 17-51, also

See FUND on Page 4

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Local

SHEFA approves 331 applications, denies 116

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The Saipan Higher Education Financial Assistance Office approved yesterday a total of 331 applications for fall semester financial awards and denied 116 other applications.

In a regular board meeting at the Saipan Mayor's Office, SHEFA administrator Henry Hofschneider reported that another 331 applications remain for assessment and, since the deadline for supporting documents is Sept. 30, the final number of approved scholars will likely go up.

SHEFA received a total of 776 applications for the fall semester of 2011. Hofschneider said his office projects to approve 520 applications this semester.

Hofschneider said the award for the initial batch of 331 scholars will total $570,100.

SHEFA has a budget of $3 million for its scholars. It will divvy up the amount among all approved scholars, with $1.5 million allocated for each semester.

The board directed Hofschneider yesterday to send a check request to the Department of Finance for the first batch of eligible scholars.

Majority of students whose applications were denied failed to meet the required grade point average, Hofschneider said, while others were noncompliant with the required credits.

Fall 2011 semester classes have already begun at the Northern Marianas College and in many off-island universities and colleges. With SHEFA still processing all applications, scholars and their families are currently shouldering their expenses while waiting for the approval of their financial assistance, Hofschneider said.

Disbursements

The board of directors was also informed yesterday that SHEFA overshot its budget last fiscal year, awarding scholarship grants that amounted to more than the $3 million allocated for 2011.

Hofschneider said the program disbursed over $900,000 for spring 2010 semester scholars and about $2.4 million for fall 2010 semester.

The board expects the Finance Department to "adjust" SHEFA's future budget to offset the excess amounts awarded in both spring and fall 2010 semesters.

Meantime, Hofschneider said that 18 checks remain pending at Finance to complete the fall 2010 award disbursement. These include 16 checks for Framingham State University graduates and the two checks that were earlier requested for correction. For Framingham students, total pending award is $79,000, while the total for the two checks requesting correction is $4,000.

A weekly update from the Marianas Visitors Authority
Tourism is everybody's business.

Korea's Next Top Model in Saipan

Korean cable TV channel On Style recently filmed in Saipan and aired the "Korea's Next To Model-Season 2" episode on August 20.

On Style targets women viewers ages 20 to 40 and covers various genres of shows, ranging from hot reality, celebrity gossips, TV dramas, and trendy lifestyles.

"Korea' Next Top Model" is a 60-minute Saturday night show with a total of 13 episodes. The first season was successfully aired from Sept. 8 to Dec. 11, 2010, and had the top viewership among cable TV channels. The Aug. 20 airing of the show ranked first among female viewers ages 20-34.

The estimated ad exposure value of the show is over $.1.1-million for the Northern Marianas.

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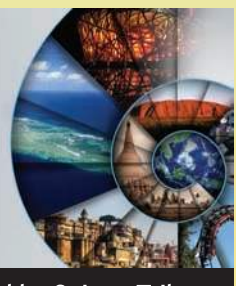

This Tourism Tuesday space is provided by Saipan Tribune

Abe Utu Malae to leave CUC by end of March 2012

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Commonwealth Utilities Corp. executive director Abe Utu Malae will officially leave his post by the end of March 2012 so he could focus on his gubernatorial campaign in American Samoa.

Malae, during Friday's ribbon-cutting ceremony for the rerouting and realignment of the W-8 lift station project, said that he will tender his resignation early next year as his contract requires a three-month prior notice.

Malae announced his election bid last month. The American Samoa gubernatorial race is slated for November 2012.

Malae earlier told *Saipan Tribune* that he has already conveyed his decision to Gov. Benigno R. Fitial, who has expressed support for the CUC official's decision.

Malae

In November 2008, Malae ran for governor of American Samoa and finished second. In 2009, he left his Senate seat in Sa'ole county in the Fono (legislative assembly) to accept a position at CUC, which was at that time experiencing massive power outages.

Malae was first hired as assistant executive director and, in October 2010, succeeded Tony Muña as executive director of the utilities corporation.

Stable power for Rota

Malae, who traveled to Rota-CUC last week, said that with the anticipated completion of three major projects on the island, Rota will soon enjoy stable power supply—probably more stable than Saipan.

Malae was alluding to the $3.6 million CIP grant that will fund the installation of two brand new Cummins engines at the Rota power plant, producing 2 megawatts each; overhaul of the Feeder 3 power distribution circuit, and upgrade of the voltage in both Feeders 1 and 2 distribution circuits.

In recent weeks, power disruptions have challenged Rota customers because of dilapidated power pole hardware, vegetation contacting high voltage power lines, and unreliable engines at the power plant.

Malae said that CUC has already begun clearing the vegetation even without bucket trucks, which are expected to arrive next month. "We're still able to do a lot of clearing—about 5 miles—even without the bucket trucks."

CUC has only one power plant on Rota, supplying power to its customers in Sinapalo and Songsong. It has two Cummins engines, one Mitsui engine that needs a major overhaul, and one Caterpillar engine, which is only used as emergency backup. The power plant produced more or less 2.6 MW from these units.

Once the two brand-new Cummins engines are installed, this will pave the way for the overhaul of the Mitsui and Caterpillar engines. The new engines will raise power production from 2.6 MW to about 7 MW.

Saipan Tribune learned that CUC has about 900 customers on Rota. During emergency power outages, CUC buys power from the privately owned Rota Resort power plant at the rate of 51 cents per kilowatt-hour.

Fitial in China for a week this time

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial left yesterday morning for Shanghai, China, on a personal trip that will also include attending a tourism conference set for yesterday and the launching of additional charter flights to the CNMI on Thursday, the administration said. This comes less than two weeks after Fitial returned from New Caledonia on official business.

Press secretary Angel Demapan said that Fitial is on personal leave and Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos is the acting governor until Fitial's return at the end of the week.

"Although Governor Fitial is on a non-government funded travel, he plans to attend a tourism related conference that will be promoting the CNMI as a tourist destination for Chinese travelers," Demapan said.

While the governor is in Shanghai, "Fitial will also make himself available to any investors that may express interest to do business in the CNMI."

"In these challenging times, Governor Fitial continues to embrace all potential investments that will prove beneficial to enhancing and reinvigorating our ailing economy," he added.

The governor also received an invitation on Friday from Century Tours-Shanghai and Tinian Dynasty Hotel to the Sept. 22 launching of additional charter flights from Shanghai to the CNMI via Sichuan Airlines.

Demapan said that Fitial arranged his trip in order to also have time to attend the tourism conference yesterday. "So since he is already there ahead of this opportune flight launch, the governor also plans to attend this event."

Travels since January

When asked about the administration's response to criticism that Fitial's off island trips have become too frequent, Demapan said when the governor is off island, "he's taking care of official business that is critical to the CNMI." These include meeting with federal officials and luring investors to the CNMI.

Fitial returned from New Caledonia on Sept. 6, after backing the CNMI's bid to host the 2017 Mini Games. The CNMI lost to Vanuatu.

In August, he went to Alaska and California.

That trip came barely two weeks after the governor returned from almost a month of off-island trips for personal and official business in Japan, the U.S. mainland and Pohnpei in July.

On Feb. 22, Fitial left for Washington, D.C. on official business up until early March, when he went on medical leave in California.

In January, Fitial left for Hong Kong and Taiwan.

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CNMI Scholarship Office has new administrator

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial has appointed a new chief executive officer for the CNMI Scholarship Office after the resignation of its erstwhile administrator.

Fitial appointed Jacqueline Che to serve as the new scholarship administrator, replacing Merissa S. Rasa.

Fitial said the appointment is effective Aug. 9.

Press secretary Angel A. Demapan confirmed with *Saipan Tribune* that Rasa resigned on Aug. 3 to pursue another employment opportunity.

"Due to her decision to accept another employment opportunity, Ms. Merissa S. Rasa tendered her resignation last month and her last day on the job was Aug. 3, 2011," said Demapan.

He said that Fitial immediately named Che to the position to ensure that the operation of the Scholarship Office swiftly transitions in line with the beginning of the fall semester.

The NMI Scholarship Office functions under the Office of the Governor. Its primary mission is to provide financial assistance to eligible CNMI students pursuing postsecondary education.

Unlike the Saipan Higher Educational Financial Assistance program, which is funded by revenue collected from poker machines and licenses, the CNMI Scholarship Office gets direct government appropriation.

From an annual budget of $4 million in fiscal year 2006, this office's allocation has declined to just $2 million in 2011. Of the $2 million, almost half goes to some 50 students under the Honors Scholarship Program, each of whom receives up to $15,000 a year.

DECISION

From Page 1

If the conferees reach a middle ground on the main differences between the House and Senate budget bills, a draft conference budget bill could be drafted by the end of the day, said Sen. Jovita Taimanao (Ind-Rota).

If so, this will be ahead of the Sept. 21 target set in the seven-point ground rules to come up with a draft budget bill.

The conferees also set a Sept. 23 deadline for a budget bill to be passed.

"The word 'shutdown' is not in our vocabulary," Taimanao told *Saipan Tribune* last night.

If the House and Senate fail to pass a budget that's also acceptable to the administration before Oct. 1, then the government will again partially shut down. There are only 10 days left before the new fiscal year begins.

Over 1,000 government employees will be temporarily out of job and other government services will not be made available until a budget law is signed.

Taimanao and Rep. Ray Basa (Cov-Saipan) led the meeting of the eight-member conference committee shortly before 3pm yesterday, after it was reset twice yesterday.

Besides agreeing on the ground rules, Taimanao, chairperson of the Senate Fiscal Affairs Committee, said the conferees also identified the differences between the two budget bills.

"We looked at the two versions. Members asked questions—where did the funds go, when accounts were zeroed out where did they go? Do we still want zero account for the individual members and the leadership of the House and Senate? These were the questions put on the table [Monday]. We will answer them Tuesday," Taimanao said.

The conferees listed seven ground rules, including having Basa and Taimanao as chairs of the respective chambers to be the sole spokespersons and not to discuss the budget with the media during deliberations.

The conferees' series of meetings is closed to the media and the public.

With conferees meeting until late yesterday afternoon, government employees and the Fitial administration were hoping for the best—that the committee will break the budget deadlock to prevent a shutdown.

Press secretary Angel Demapan said this week "will pretty much set the tone" of the budget process, whether the deadlock could be resolved.

"Next week is pretty much the homestretch. Next week we know pretty much the degree of likelihood of a shutdown or unlikelihood of a shutdown," he said.

The House passed a budget bill that it says will allow the Public School System and the Northern Marianas College to meet their maintenance-of-efforts requirements set by the federal government. But the Senate's substitute budget bill version gave PSS and NMC some $3 million more than the House gave.

Of that added amount, some $2 million came from cuts in the Legislature and the Executive Branch's budget, as proposed by the Senate. Other amount came from a new source of funding related to a federally mandated fee that employers have to pay for every foreign worker hired. Senators also gave additional funding to Rota and Tinian programs and agencies.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

Rep. Ray Basa (Cov-Saipan), fourth from left, and Sen. Jovita Taimanao (Ind-Rota), second from right, lead the eight-member conference committee that is trying to break the fiscal year 2012 budget deadlock between the House and Senate. Reporters were allowed to take photos of the conferees, along with the House and Senate legal counsels, shortly before the start of their first meeting yesterday afternoon in the speaker's conference room.

TIME

From Page 1

ognize their status under CNMI law and not be subjected to deportation.

Apilado is among the thousands that Delegate Gregorio Kilili Sablan (Ind-MP) is trying to help with his H.R. 1466, which seeks to grant a CNMI-only resident status to four specific groups of people.

"I don't know what's going to happen to us after Nov. 27," he added.

Some worker groups are trying to help those like Apilado by either pushing for the immediate passage of Sablan's H.R. 1466 in Congress or asking the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services to allow these four groups of individuals covered by H.R. 1466 to remain in the CNMI until such time that the bill is acted on.

The Coalition for the Recognition, Equality and Advancement of American Minorities, or CREAM, the Unity Group of Foreign Workers, the Dekada Movement and the Marianas Advocates for Humanitarian Affairs Ltd. and their supporters are among those supporting H.R. 1466.

Besides supporting the bill, three of these groups also want Sablan to consider adding a fifth group that will be covered—those who have been legally in the CNMI for at least five years as of May 2008.

Malou Berueco, a worker advocate, said yesterday that they want to meet with Sablan when he comes back here to show their support for H.R. 1466 and if possible, add one more group to be covered by his bill.

The CREAM leadership also reiterated yesterday that these groups of people, including the CNMI permanent residents and those born in 1974-1978, need help for them to be able to continue their stay in the CNMI beyond Nov. 27.

USCIS outreach sessions

Worker groups and their supporters plan to meet with Sablan and USCIS to address the plight of these individuals who are both not covered in the final Commonwealth-only worker rule and the federalization law itself.

The USCIS will start today its outreach sessions to provide an overview of the CW rule and other immigration classifications available under the Immigration and Nationality Act.

The outreach sessions will last until Sept. 29.

Today, from 2pm to 4pm, a USCIS team will hold an outreach session for employers at the American Memorial Park's indoor auditorium in Garapan.

At 6pm, the USCIS team will be meeting with the Filipino community and the Philippine Consulate General.

The public sessions, meanwhile, will begin on Wednesday, at 5pm, also at the American Memorial Park's indoor auditorium.

Questions pile up

The Saipan Chamber of Commerce, the largest business organization in the CNMI with some 150 members, will have a session with the USCIS outreach team on Wednesday, 1pm, at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe.

As of yesterday afternoon, Chamber members listed at least 33 questions for the USCIS team. But additional questions are expected to be asked that day.

Among the Chamber members' 33 questions are, "will CW-1 visa holders be paid federal minimum wage, prevailing wage rates, or current CNMI minimum wage levels as defined in federal law?" and "Is there a minimum hours worked per week requirement in order to obtain the CW-1 visa for employees?"

"Is it an 'acceptable activity' to be currently engaged in recruiting domestic workers for future use as service employees in a maid service company without paying them while they are in a holding pattern waiting for future employment opportunities?" and "Who is responsible for paying the CW-1 application fees? When are payments to be made?" are also among them.

Chamber members also want to know who is responsible for medical services/costs under the CW rule.

"If an application for H-1B visa is submitted by October 7, but is not issued by November 28th, will the employee be allowed to work? Some employers were waiting until the CW-1 rule was issued before submitting," another one goes.

Another set of questions deals with the status of CNMI permanent residents. "Can they stay on island without the threat of removal? If they leave the island for any reason, can they return?"

FUND

From Page 1

known as the Derivative Beneficiaries Act.

Associate Judge Kenneth L. Govendo conducted an emergency hearing yesterday on the TRO request and ordered the parties to return to court today, Tuesday, at 9am for closing arguments.

The Fund questioned the constitutionality of the Act and asserted that issuing the TRO will ensure that assets are invested to maximize the length of time that their benefit payments will continue.

The Office of the Attorney General, as counsel for Fitial, Inos, and the Superior Courts' clerk of court, opposed the motion for temporary injunction.

Assistant attorney general Michael A. Stanker argued that Public Law 17-51 does not harm the Fund but actually endows it and its beneficiaries additional benefits.

"While the practical effect of the law is that the Fund's agents have quit, all the board needs to do to remedy this situation is hire new agents," Stanker said.

Three retirees—Mariano Taitano, Roman F. Tudela, and Patricia Guerrero—through counsel Michael Dotts, also opposed as intervenors to the Fund's request for a TRO.

Dotts argued that there is no justification for the court to restrain Public Law 17-51, which he described as a "lawfully enacted law."

Dotts said there is evidence that the Fund has other managers besides those who have quit.

"There is no evidence that none of the other managers who did not cancel their contracts could not or would not agree to manage the money of those who did," Dotts said.

In Fund's TRO request, Kern said the Fund has already suffered irreparable harm when its investment consultant, actuary, and at least two money managers terminated and or suspended their contracts with the Fund.

"Even more irreparable harm will be suffered when additional money managers and other service providers, such as the Fund's external auditors and the custodian holding the Fund's assets, follow suit and terminate their contracts," Kern said.

Kern said the hardship the Fund will face if a TRO is not issued is immeasurable but will clearly be evident when the Fund runs out of money and is no longer to able to make pension payments.

At yesterday's hearing, Kern called to the witness stand Fund administrator Richard Villagomez, who basically explained to the court the impact when service providers (money managers and consultants) quit as a result of the signing of the derivative beneficiaries law.

After cross-examining Villagomez, Govendo expressed appreciation to the administrator for "being candid as always" in his testimony.

Govendo encouraged the parties to hold talks to come up with a compromise such as a new bill or "something else."

Dotts said court should help the parties reach a compromise.

CDA urged to invest in planned cargo airline for Marianas

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
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REPORTER

Arctic Circle Air Corp., a company that wants to set up a cargo airline called Cargo Air Bridge in the CNMI to address the high shipping cost that has hampered the growth of the agriculture industry in the CNMI, wants the Commonwealth Development Authority to invest in this venture.

Company president Anthony Pellegrino presented his proposal at a CDA board meeting last week. He was joined by other company officials and community members who all expressed support for the project that Pellegrino said "will help rejuvenate the economy that we're all suffering from."

"I am standing before you requesting the board to invest. I'm not asking for a loan," Pellegrino told board members Wednesday.

Pellegrino disclosed that he has already talked to several private investors who have expressed interest in the project and "are willing to put up the money."

"But I don't want that. I want the people of the CNMI to be actively involved as investors. So therefore, I am standing in front of you asking to please, come in as an investor," said Pellegrino, adding that he has discussed his proposal in detail with CDA executive director Manuel Sablan and loan manager Oscar Camacho.

Pellegrino said about 45 investors—both farmers and non-farmers—have already invested in Arctic Circle Air, which aims to provide an economic bridge that would connect the islands of Saipan, Tinian, Rota, the Northern Islands, and Guam by reviving the agriculture industry.

"The basic thing is to encourage and motivate the farmers on the islands to go back to farming," he said.

Arctic Circle Air's Paul Zak said that without transportation, there is no way to move agricultural commodities produced by local farmers and bring them to market, which is "Guam and beyond."

"If you can't move it, you got nothing in your hand. This is an opportunity for development," Zak said, addressing the board.

Unlike existing airline companies, Zak said that Arctic Circle Air will focus on the islands' need for a cargo airline and "finding a mechanism that services that need."

Herman R. Deleon Guerrero urged the board to support this "local" company, reminding them "about the economic plight that we are experiencing right now and the suffering that each and everyone in the community is experiencing."

"Arctic Circle Air is a business where we can see the light at the end of the tunnel," he added.

Agriculture consultant Isidoro T. Cabrera said his involvement with the company focuses on providing technical assistance to farmers and ranchers on the type of crops and the right varieties to grow to maximize production. "It's very important to have this knowledge."

While the Northern Marianas College – Cooperative Research Extension and Education Service cannot sponsor a specific business, director Ross Manglona said that their office could sponsor a concept.

"Although we cannot go out and say we support this particular company, we support the concept. The concept they portray takes care of farming on Rota, farming on Tinian, farming on Saipan," he said, adding that Arctic Circle Air's concept "has an approach that tackles many areas of agricultural constraints."

The board went into executive session after all public comments were heard regarding the Arctic Circle Air proposal.

CDA management said that Arctic Circle Air would be informed about the board's decision in writing, which is expected to soon.

90 pct. of diver sites now have proper buoys

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
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REPORTER

About 90 percent of dive sites on Saipan are now using proper buoy systems, thanks to an ongoing federally funded project administered by the Coastal Resources Management Office.

CRM coastal coordinator Guy Macaranas said the project, which started two years ago, ensures that proper buoy systems are in place, especially since diving is among the water activities that tourists engage in when they visit the island.

Macaranas explained that a proper buoy system is installed in a manner that doesn't damage corals.

Some dive sites "still use chains on rocks" as buoys, according to Macaranas.

"We have to eliminate that because it's not environmentally friendly because it damages our corals," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

Macaranas said that some of the over 30 dive sites on Saipan require properly installed buoy systems, including the *Ice Cream,* a seamount located outside the lagoon slightly south of Garapan and is home to baby eels, anemones, and eagle rays, and the *Dimple*, also a seamount on the western side of Saipan where red snappers and butterfly fish dwell.

Macaranas noted that proper buoy systems not only require careful installation but also proper maintenance for longevity. He said some of the island's dive sites have buoy systems that already need to be upgraded.

The coastal coordinator said they have been working with private dive companies and the Northern Marianas Dive Operators Association to carry out the project.

Macaranas added that the project also involves the installation and maintenance of proper buoy systems at dive sites on Tinian and Rota.

Manglona denies FSM citizen's motion to reinstate court's stay of his removal

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

U.S. District Court for the NMI Chief Judge Ramona V. Manglona has denied a citizen of the Federated States of Micronesia's emergency motion to reinstate the court's stay of his removal from the CNMI.

In her order Saturday, Manglona said the court does not have jurisdiction to hear Mariano Angel Shiano's petition for habeas corpus—as she had already explained in a previous decision.

"It therefore has no jurisdiction to issue a stay of removal," Manglona said in her two-page order.

According to court records, Shiano is a habitual offender.

The judge said the court has issued a final order and decision so any further remedy must be pursued through an appeal.

Shiano, through counsel Stephen C. Woodruff, filed the emergency motion in court on Friday after being told by his client on Monday last week that he had been told that he would be removed that very day.

Woodruff said he had his administrative assistant call Immigration and Customs Enforcement to verify this and was told by an ICE officer that Shiano was scheduled to be put on a plane next week.

Woodruff said on Friday morning (Sept. 16) he was again indirectly notified that Shiano would be removed that day. Further inquiries, he said, showed that Shiano had been checked out of the Department of Corrections on Saipan by ICE that Friday morning.

Ultimately, Woodruff learned from an ICE official that Shiano is no longer on Saipan and has been transferred to immigration detention in Guam.

Absent a stay petition, he said that Shiano will almost certainly be put on one of the flights from Guam to Chuuk.

ICE official Gerald Zedde and ICE acting supervisor Beth Limerick both opposed the emergency motion.

Last Sept. 7, Chief Judge Manglona granted ICE's motion to dismiss Shiano's petition for habeas corpus. The judge lifted the court's temporary stay order that temporarily stopped Shiano's deportation.

Shiano was originally scheduled to be deported on July 5, 2011, but he filed a petition for habeas corpus.

In the petition, Woodruff argued that Shiano has no criminal history subsequent to the May 8, 2008, enactment of the Consolidated Natural Resources Act or the Nov. 28, 2009, extension of the territorial reach of the Immigration and Naturalization Act to include the CNMI.

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
COMMONWEALTH BOARD OF NURSE EXAMINERS

PUBLIC NOTICE

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, the Commonwealth Board of Nurse Examiners Board of Directors, is hereby giving notice that the Board will be meeting on Wednesday, September 21, 2011. The meeting will be held at the Secretary's Conference Room III, Commonwealth Health Center, Saipan, from 2:00 am to 5:00 pm.

AGENDA

I. **Preliminary Matters –**
   1. Roll Call

II. **Call to Order**

III. **Adoption of Minutes -**
   1. June 16, 2011

IV. **Adoption of Agenda**
   1. Rules and Regulation Update
   2. Travel Policy
   3. Third party companies
   4. Office mail procedures
   5. Announcement of CBNE office Manager

V. **Miscellaneous**

VI. **Adjournment**

/s/ Aurelia G. Long, NP
Chairperson

Alpino: I will not stop until truth prevails

» Scholar forced to secure student loan; family seeks BOE assistance

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

University of Philadelphia freshman Katelyn Alpino said she has no plans to give up until she ferrets out the truth about her denied application for financial assistance with the CNMI Scholarship Office.

"It was really surprising to find out about this. They said I was denied because of my low GPA [grade point average] and I was the class valedictorian. I don't understand this at all. It affects my plans in a big way because this scholarship plays a big role with how I am supposed to fund my college education. I personally feel as if I was deprived of this and I hope that there is an investigation about this because it's unfair," Alpino said in an email to the *Saipan Tribune*. "My parents and I will not stop until the truth about what happened comes out."

The Public School System is currently investigating Alpino's case after Rota High School recently concluded its own probe. The 2011 Rota High School valedictorian was not approved for scholarship assistance by the CNMI government due to her supposedly low GPA. Both the salutatorian and third honor of Alpino's batch were approved financial assistance by the CNMI Scholarship Office.

Alpino said she's hopeful and praying that the issue will be resolved soon.

"For now, I have a private student loan on standby which I hopefully don't have to make because I know for sure that I deserve that scholarship. I turned in all my required documents on time and I believe that I had a significantly high SAT score and on top of everything, was the class valedictorian," she said.

Alpino said the denial has affected her and her studies. She is currently taking up a pre-medicine course.

"It worries me because my tuition was due on July 31st and I was not able to pay for it. My school gave me a grace period to figure out how I'm supposed to pay for the rest of my tuition and they've been very understanding about my situation. I'm not too sure about how much loans I have because I'm still waiting on some but I know I owe my school almost $11,500 for this school year, which was supposed to be paid with my scholarship," she said.

According to her father, Arthur Alpino, PSS has yet to provide them the result of its investigation that was supposed to be completed on Sept. 12.

On Friday, Arthur Alpino filed with the Board of Education a complaint seeking its intervention after waiting for three weeks for PSS action.

"We need your help and I think our letter of grievance to PSS commissioner, Dr. Rita A. Sablan, has not been taken cared of the way it should be," Arthur Alpino told board chair Marylou Ada in his letter Friday.

Arthur Alpino stated that their problem arose upon learning that his daughter's application with the CNMI Scholarship Office had been denied.

"We sent a letter of appeal to the CNMI Scholarship Board about this matter and based on their investigation, my daughter's reported cumulative GPA was lower than the salutatorian and third honor students, who both qualified for the scholarship grant. How can this happen? This is insane. My daughter graduated valedictorian, and how come she had the lowest GPA? Is there any manipulation/misconduct/error on this by the Rota High School personnel headed by principal Sharlene Manglona?" Mr. Alpino wrote in his letter to Ada.

KHS JROTC lends a hand at Mt. Carmel cemetery

With All Souls Day fast approaching in November, Kagman High School JROTC cadets turned out en masse on Saturday, Sept. 17, 2011, to help clean up thousands of old candles, faded plastic wreaths, weeds, and trash that littered the entire cemetery plots at Mt. Carmel Cemetery.

Despite the persistent rain, KHS JROTC had over 37 of its young citizens complete a community service request by the Mt. Carmel Diocese. Fr. Ryan Jimenez came out to thank Kagman High School cadets for their hard work.

MSG James R. Burke, KHS senior army instructor, said that this is a monumental task that will take a lot more than several Saturdays to get the cemetery ready for All Souls Day. The public is encouraged to join the cadets and help make the cemetery a beautiful place to visit loved one at their final resting place on All Souls Day in November. ***(PR)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Kagman High School cadets collect thousands of old candles and wreaths at the Mount Carmel cemetery.

Admin drafts EOs on DPS-DOC merger, transfer of DCCA offices

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

With less than two weeks to go before the start of fiscal year 2012, the Fitial administration is now drafting two separate executive orders—one that will merge the Department of Public Safety and the Department of Corrections, and another that will transfer at least three offices under the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs to the Indigenous Affairs Office.

Press secretary Angel Demapan, in an interview yesterday, said these mergers and transfers are intended to take effect by the start of fiscal year 2012 on Oct. 1.

He said when DPS and Corrections merge, Public Safety Commissioner Ray Mafnas will remain as the head of both offices.

Besides the transfer of offices under DCCA to the Indigenous Affairs Office, there may be other agencies that will be transferred to DCCA.

These mergers and transfers were among the recommendations by independent firm Management Analysis Inc. that conducted a desk audit on DCCA and DPS last year.

The merger of DPS and Corrections will come seven years after Fitial's predecessor, Juan N. Babauta, separated the two.

World-class Ukrainian pianist to visit Saipan anew

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
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REPORTER

Internationally acclaimed classical pianist Roman Rudnytsky is set to visit Saipan again next year.

Friends of the Arts board chair Susan Fishman-Tudor said the Ukrainian native, who graduated from the celebrated Julliard School in New York and received training from the Mozarteum in Austria, will grace the island with a show slated for January 2012.

One of the most traveled concert pianists, Rudnytsky has performed in over 80 countries and is a prizewinner of several prestigious piano competitions such as the International Leventritt Competition in New York and the J.S. Bach International Competition in Washington.

"Rudnytsky's visit to Saipan is part of his Pacific Rim tour, which will take him to perform in other islands like Guam and Kwajalein," Fishman-Tudor told *Saipan Tribune*.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Internationally acclaimed classical pianist Roman Rudnytsky.

Fishman-Tudor described Rudnytsky as an "extraordinary human being."

"He has information about a lot of virtuoso pianists like Chopin and he has no qualms about sharing that stuff with anybody. When he visited Saipan in the past, he went to three high schools and interacted with students," she said.

Fishman-Tudor disclosed that FOA is still trying to obtain more sponsors to allow Rudnytsky to hold a dinner show.

Fishman-Tudor said that FOA will offer those who will purchase their season tickets at $40 each guaranteed reserved seating during Rudnytsky's performance on Saipan.

FOA's season ticket holders are given admission to all of the group's productions in a season year at a discounted rate. FOA tickets per show are each priced at $12 for members and $15 for non-members.

"Rudnytsky's concert will be a great perk for those who will support FOA by buying season tickets," said Fishman-Tudor.

To purchase season tickets or for more information about the Rudnytsky show, email Fishman-Tudor at msmrizer@hotmail.com or Frank Gibson at flgibson@yahoo.com.

Jury trial of Reksid begins

The jury trial of Franz B. Reksid, the former Department of Public Lands special assistant to the secretary, began yesterday in the U.S. District Court for the NMI.

When *Saipan Tribune* left the courtroom at 1:30pm, visiting judge Michael A. Ponsor was still selecting jurors. *Saipan Tribune* later learned that Ponsor was able to complete the jury selection.

The 70-year-old Reksid is on trial for one count of bribery concerning a program receiving federal funds.

Last week, Ponsor granted defense attorney Mark Hanson's motion to dismiss counts 2 to 6 of wire fraud charges. Ponsor, however, ruled that the jury trial will proceed as to count 1 (bribery concerning a program receiving federal funds), and counts 7 and 8 (wire fraud).

Assistant U.S. Attorney Eric O'Malley then asked the court last week to dismiss without prejudice counts 7 and 8. This motion was granted.

The indictment alleged that from January 2009 to August 2009, Reksid borrowed over $300,000 from friends, associates, and relatives and wired part of the money to Ivory Coast and Nigeria. He also allegedly solicited $3,000 from the owner of a business that was seeking to obtain a contract with DPL. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

Commonwealth I Sankattan Siha Na Islas Mariana
Ofisinan I Gubietno
Dipåttamenton I Tano' Pupbliku

NOTICE OF PROPOSED LEASE EXTENSION FOR PUBLIC LAND

In accordance with Section 106 (a) and (b) of Public Law 15-2, the Department of Public Lands hereby gives notice of its intent to recommend the extension of a lease on certain public land in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. This lease extension is subject to the approval of the Northern Mariana Islands Commonwealth Legislature in accordance with the mandate set out in Article XI, § 5(c) of the Constitution of the Northern Mariana Islands. Any interested parties of the general public may submit comments, data, views, or arguments of alternative proposals for the lease of the public land. As further provided by Public Law 15-2, the following pertinent information is required to be published.

i. The leased premises is described as public land Lot No. 025 E 01, containing an area of approximately 12,225 square meters, more or less, situated in Lower Base, Saipan. A copy of the location of the parcel is available at the Department of Public Lands for inspection.

ii. The lessee is L&T Group of Companies, Ltd., a CNMI Corporation. The Board of Directors of the Corporation are Willie Tan, Jerry Tan, and Glicerio Arago.

The President of the Corporation is Willie Tan. The Vice President is Jerry Tan. The Treasurer/Secretary is Glicerio Arago.

iii. The proposed lease extension was negotiated by Mr. Glicerio Arago.

iv. The lessee shall continue to use the premises solely for the purpose of operating the business of warehousing, moving, loading and unloading and storage of property , and activities related thereto.

The term of the lease agreement extension is 15 years.

v. Copies of the proposed lease extension agreements may be obtained at the office of the Department of Public Lands, located on the 2nd floor of the Joeten Dandan Commercial Building in Dandan, Saipan; Songsong Village, Rota; or the 1st floor of the Kings Commercial Building, Tinian.

vi. The Department of Public Lands has received no alternative proposals to lease the subject public lands in Lower Base, Saipan.

vii. The Secretary of the Department of Public Lands shall accept written comments, views, arguments or alternative proposals from interested parties on or before September 27, 2011 at the Department of Public Lands offices located in Saipan, Rota or Tinian.

I MAPROPONI NA INEKSTENSION ATKILON TÅNU' PUPBLIKU

Sigun gi nutisia Seksiona 106(a) yan (b) gi Lai Pupbliku 15-2, i Dipattamentun Tånu' Pupbliku Siha guini ha nutisia na i intension-ña na para u rekumenda i inekstendin atkilon gi sigienti na tanu' pupbliku giya Saipan, Commonwealth gi Sangkattan na Islas Marianas siha.

Esti i inekstendin atkilon masuhetu para i inaprueban i Leyislatura gi Commonwealth gi Sangkattan na Islas Marianas siha sigun ni mamånda ni mapega huyung gi Attikulu XI, § 5(c) gi Konstitusion gi Sangkattan na Islas Marianas. Maseha håyi na petsona siha gi halum i pupbliku henerât siña ha na'hålum imfetmasion, opiñon, pat testamoñon kinentra gi tinahgui na propositu siha para i atkilon tanu' pupbliku. Komu sigi mo'na mapribeniyi ginin i Lai Pupbliku 15-2, gi sigienti pettanesi na imfotmasion ni madimånda para u mapupblika.

i. I atkilon i lugåt madiskribi komu tanu' pupbliku Lot No. 025 E 01, kinonsisti kåsi guaha 12,225 na åria (square meters), putlumenus pat mås, ni gaigi giya Lower Base, Saipan. I kopian esti na lugåt yan i pumalu nai guaha gi Dipattamentun Tånu' Pupbliku ni para u marikunosi.

ii. I manatkikila i L & T Group of Companies, Ltd., i CNMI Corporation. I Direktot i Kuetpu siha gi Corporation si Willie Tan, Jerry Tan, yan si Glicerio Arago.

I Presidentin i Corporation si Willie Tan. I Sigundu Presidenti si Jerry Tan. I Tresureru/Sikritåriu si Glicerio Arago.

iii. I maproponin inekstendin atkilon manigosiu as Siñot Glicerio Arago.

iv. I manatkikila debi na u kuntinuha umusa i lugåt solamienti para i maneran operasion bisnis i warehousing, moving, loading yan unloading yan storage i property, yan aktibidåt siha ni uma'achuli' guihi siha.

I teman esti na kuntråta inekstendin atkilon sa' kinsi (15) åñus.

v. I kopian i kuntråtan i manmaproponi na inekstendin atkilon siha siña machuli' gi ufisinan i Dipattamentun Tanu' Pupbliku, gaigi gi mina'sigundu(2nd) bibienda gi Joeten Dandan Commercial Building giya Dandan, Saipan; gi Songsong Village, Luta; pat gi Primet(1st) bibienda giya Kings Commercial Building, Tinian.

vi. I Dipattamentun Tanu' Pupbliku tåya' ha risibi tinahguin propositu ni para u ma'atkila i suhetu tanu' pupbliku siha giya Lower Base, Saipan.

vii. I Sikritåriun i Dipattamentun Tanu' Pupbliku debi na u aksepta i tinigi' imfotmasion, opiñon, testamoñon kinentra pat tinahguin propositu siha ginin i gai intires na petsona siha gi pat åntis di Septembre 27, 2011 gi ufisinan i Dipattamentun Tanu' Pupbliku ni gaigi Saipan, Luta, pat Tinian.

ARONGORONG REEL POMWOL AKKILONUL FALÚWEER TOULAP

Sángi Tálil ye 106 (b) mellól Alléghúl Toulap 15-2, Bwulasiyool Ammwlil Falúweer Toulap ekke atotoowow ammataf igha ebwe akkilaaló eghús falúw mellól Seipel, Commonwealth Téél Falúwasch Marianas. Akkilon yeel nge ebwe mwir sangi alughulughul Sów Ffëérúl Allégh mellol Commonwealth Northern Mariana Islands iye e alléghewow mellól Article XI, Tálil 5(c) mellól Allégh Lapalap Northern Mariana Islands. Schóókka eyoor máfiyeer nge rebwe ischilong aghiyghiir, awewee, aingiingil reel pomwol akkilonul ammwelil falúweer toulap mebwal Alléghúl Toulap ye 15-2, e ayoora, lamal awewee kka rebwe mweiti ngáli milikka ebwe akkatééló.

i. Pomwol akkilonul falúweer toulap nge ekke bwáári Lot No.025 E 01, ebwe yoor seigh me eew sangaras ruwabwughúw reweigh me limoow llapal (12, 225 square meters), elapeló me ngáre eghús, elo Lower Base, Seipél Tilighial bwuley yeel nge eyoor mereel Bwulasiyool Falúweer Toulap (Public Lands) ngáre óubwe ghuley fischiy.

ii. Schéschéél schóól akkilon nge L&T Group of Company, CNMI Corporation. Mwiischil asamwool kkey (Directors) mellól Corporation nge Willie Tan, Jerry Tan, me Glicerio Arago.

Samwoolul Corporation nge Willie Tan. Arúscheyil Samwool nge Jerry Tan.
Treasurer/Secretary nge Glicerio Arago.

iii. School aweweel akkilon yeel nge Mr. Glicerio Arago..

iv. Schóól akkilon ebwe sobwey yaal mwóghut ágheli bisinisil sokko, amwatal me atotootiw me sokkol peiragh me akkááw mwóghutul.

Tool aighúghúl pomwol akkilon nge reweigh me limoow ráágh (25 years)

v. Tilighial akkilon yeel nge emmwel óubwe bwughi mereel bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap, elo aruwowal pwó (2nd floor) me Joeten Dandan Commercial Building llol Tuturam, Seipél; aruwowal pwó (2nd floor) mellól Bank of Saipan Commercial Building, Luuta; me ngáre mmwal pwó (1st floor) mellól Kings Commercial Building, Tchúlúyól.

vi Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap nge esáál bweibwogh mwo pomwol akkilon ye elo Lower Base, Seipel..

vii. Samwoolul Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap nge ebwe bwughil ischil mángemáng, aingiingil mereel amweyút mmwal Maan (September) 27, 2011 mellól Bwulasiyool Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap iye elo Seipél, Luuta, Tchúlúyól.

Commonwealth I Sankattan Siha Na Islas Mariana
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NOTICE OF PROPOSED LEASE EXTENSION FOR PUBLIC LAND

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i. The leased premises is described as public land Lot No. 010 B 96, containing an area of approximately 909 square meters, more or less, and Lot No. 010 B 97, containing an area of approximately 1,072 square meters, more or less, situated in San Roque, Saipan. A copy of the location of the parcel is available at the Department of Public Lands for inspection.

ii. The lessee is V & C Enterprises, Inc., a CNMI Corporation. The Board of Directors of the Corporation are Victoria B. Camacho, Cathy C. Villagomez, Claudine B. Camacho, Michelle C. Macaranas, and Neda B. Camacho.

The President of the Corporation is Victoria B. Camacho. The Vice Presidents are Cathy C. Villagomez and Claudine B. Camacho. The Treasurer is Michelle C. Macaranas. The Secretary is Neda B. Camacho.

iii. The proposed lease extension was negotiated by Mrs. Victoria B. Camacho.

iv. The lessee shall continue to use the premises solely for the purpose of operating a grocery store, coin operated laundromat, poker machine establishment, gasoline service/filling station, mini-mart, storage and facilities directly related to these activities.

The term of the lease agreement extensions is 15 years.

The proposed annual rental during the term is based on a percentage of the appraised fair market value of the properties.

v. Copies of the proposed lease extension agreements may be obtained at the office of the Department of Public Lands, located on the 2nd floor of the Joeten Dandan Commercial Building in Dandan, Saipan; Songsong Village, Rota; or the 1st floor of the Kings Commercial Building, Tinian.

vi. The Department of Public Lands has received no alternative proposals to lease the subject public lands in San Roque, Saipan.

vii. The Secretary of the Department of Public Lands shall accept written comments, views, arguments or alternative proposals from interested parties on or before September 27, 2011 at the Department of Public Lands offices located in Saipan, Rota or Tinian.

NUTISIA PUT MAPROPONIN INEKSTENDIN INATKILON TANU' PUPBLIKU

Sigun gi Seksiona 106(a) yan (b) gi Lain Pupbliku 15-2, i Dipattamentun Tanu' Pupbliku guini ha nå'i nutisia ni intensionña para u rekumenda i inekstenden inatkilon gi pumalu na tånu' pupbliku siha giya Saipan, Commonwealth gi Sangkattan na Isla Marianas siha. Esti na inekstendin atkilon siha manmasuhetu para i inaprueban i Lehislaturan Commonwealth gi Sangkattan na Islas Marianas gi sigun ni mamånda ni mapega huyung gi Attikilu XI, § 5(c) gi Konstitusion i Sangkattan na Islas Marianas siha. Maseha håyi na pattida siha gi halum i pupbliku henerât siña ha na'hålum i imfotmasion, opiñon, pat testamoñun kinentra siha gi tinahguen propositu siha ni para i atkilon tånu' pupbliku. Sigi mås mo'na mapribeniyi ginin i Lain Pupbliku 15-2, i tinattitiyi pettanesin imfotmasion ni madimånda ni debi na u mapupblika.

i. I lugåt atkilon siha madeskribi komu tano' pupbliku Lot No. 010 B 96, kinonsisti årian kåsi guaha 909 square meters, putlumenus mås, yan i Lot No. 010 B 97, kinonsisti i åria ni kåsi guaha 1,072 square meters, mås pat menus, ni gaigi giya San Roque, Saipan. I kopian i pumalu na lugåt gaigi na gumuaha gi Dipattamentun Tanu' Pupbliku siha ni para i rikunosimientu.

ii. I manatkikila i V & C Enterprises, Inc., i CNMI Corporation. I Kuetpun Direktot siha gi Corporation si Victoria B. Camacho, Cathy C. Villagomez, Claudine B. Camacho, Michelle C. Macaranas, yan si Neda B. Camacho.

I Presidenti gi Corporation si Victoria B. Camacho. I sigundu Presidenti si Cathy C. Villagomez yan si Claudine B. Camacho. I Tresureria si Michelle C. Macaranas. I Sekritåria si Neda B. Camacho.

iii. I maproponi na ekstension atkilon manigosiu gi as Siñora Victoria B. Camacho.

iv. I manatkikila debi na u kontinua umusa i lugåt siha uniku para i hinangai i operasion tendan grocery, coin operated laundromat, inistaplesin måkinan poker, setbisiun gasoline/filling station, mini mart, storage yan fasilidåt siha ni mana'achuli' guini na aktibidåt.

I teman i kuntråtan atkilon ha ekstendi gi 15 åñus.

I manmaproponi na åpas atkilon gi sakkan gi durântin i tema sigun gi percentage gi appraised fair market value gi propiedåt siha.

v. Kopian i manmaproponi na kontråta ekstension atkilon siha siña machuli' gi ufisinan i Dipattamentun Tanu' Pupbliku siha, gaigi gi segundu bibienda 2nd floor gi Joeten Dandan Commercial Building giya Dandan, Saipan; gi Songsong Village, Luta; pat i primet 1st bibienda gi Kings Commercial Building, Tinian.

vi. I Dipattamentun Tanu' Pupbliku siha tåya' ha risibi tinahguin propositu siha para sinuhetun atkilon tanu' pupbliku siha giya San Roque, Saipan.

vii. I Sekritåriun i Dipattamentun Tanu' Pupbliku siha debi na u aksepta i tinigi' i imfotmasion, opiñon yan testamoñun kinentra pat tinahguin propositu siha ginin i manggai interes na pattida siha gi pat åntis di Septembre 27, 2011 gi ufisinan Dipattamentun Tanu' Pupbliku siha ni gaigi Saipan, Luta, pat Tinian.

ARONGORONG REEL POMWOL EBWE SÓBWEEYLÓ AKKILON-UL FALUWEER TOULAP

Sángi Tálil 106 (a) me (b) mellól Public Law 15-2, Bwulasiyool Faluweer Toulap ekke atotoow ammataf igha e tipáli bwe ebwe tingóór extension reel akkilon mereel eghus falúweer toulap mewóól Seipél, Commonwealth Téél Falúw Kka Efáng Marianas. Lease extension yeel ebwe alúghúlúghló mereel Téél Falúw Kka Efáng Marianas Commonwealth Legislature sángi llól mandate ye e towoow mellól Article XI, § 5(c) mellól Constitution-ul Téél Falúw Kka Efáng Marianas. Reer toulap schóókka eyoor yaar mwuschel rebwe issisilong yaar mwáliili, mángemáng, aweewe me angiingil reel poomw kkaal reel akkilon-ul falúweer toulap. Me Public Law 15-2, e ayoora lamal aweewe kka e fisch ngáli milikka ebwe akkatéélo.

i. Akkilon-ul falúw yeel ekke bwáárilo bwe public land Lot No. 010 B 96, emmwel ebwe yoor tiwabwughúw tiwoow (909) square meters, elapló ngáre eghus, me ebwe yoor eew Lot No. 010 B 97 sangaras fissigh me ruwoow (1,072) square meters, elapló ngáre eghus, elo San Roque, Seipél. Tiliighil bwuley yeel nge eyoor mereel Bwulasiyol Falúweer Toulap (Department of Public Land) bwe aubwe ghuleey fischiy.

ii. Schóól lessee nge V & C Enterprises, Inc, eew CNMI Corporation. Samwoolur Board-ul Corporation yeel nge ikka, Victoria B. Camacho, Cathy C. Villagomez, Claudine B. Camacho, Michelle C. Macaranas, me Neda B. Camacho.

President-il Corporation yeel nge Victoria B. Camacho. Vice President nge Cathy C. Villagomez me Claudine B. Camacho. Treasurer nge Michelle C. Macaranas. Secretary nge Neda B. Camacho.

iii. Schóól aweewel pomwol lease extension yeel nge Mrs. Victoria B. Camacho.

iv. Schóól lessee ebwe sóbweyló yaal yáali bwuley yeel reel mwóghutul ebwe ayoor grocery store, coin operated Laundromat, poker machine establishment, gasoline service/filling station, mini-mart, storage me facilities kka ebwe yáayá reel milikkaal.

Tool abwungubwungul extension yeel nge seigh me limwoow (15) ráágh.

Pomwol annual rental reel tool nge ebwe bweibwogh sángi percentage-il appraised fair market value reel properties.

v. Tiliighil ngáre kopiyal pomwol abwungubwungul ebwe sóbweeyló akkilon yeel emmwel ebwe bweibwogh mellól bwulasiyol Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap (Department of Public Land), elo 2nd floor mereel Joeten Dandan Commercial Building me Dandan, Seipél; Songsong Village, Luuta; ngáre 1st floor mereel Kings Commercial Building, Tchúlúyól.

vi. Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap(Department of Public Land) esáál bweighbwogh mwo pomwol akkilon ye public lands me San Roque, Seipél.

vii. Samwoolul Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap (Secretary of the Department of Public Lands) ebwe bwughil iischil mángemáng, angiingi me ngáre ifa mereel pomwo kkaal sángi schóókka re tipáli, wóól me ngáre mmwal Maan (September) 27, 2011 mereel Ammwelil Falúweer Toulap (Department of Public Lands offices) kka elo Seipél, Luuta, me ngáre Tchúlúyól.

'Usage is key to survival of native languages'

By CLARISSA V. DAVID
clarissa_david@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Barbara Dewein, a PhD candidate in linguistics from the Universitat Bremen in Germany, said that continued use of the Chamorro language is key to its preservation.

"It's people's choice to speak the language or not and people might have good reasons to speak English instead of Chamorro but if they want to preserve Chamorro, there's no other choice than speaking it and giving it on, passing it on to the next generations," Dewein told *Saipan Tribune*.

Dewein and Dr. Thomas Stolz, who are part of a five-member team working on the Chamorrica project, discussed their project's initial findings in a presentation at the American Memorial Park Visitors Center Theater on Sept. 17, sponsored by the NMI Humanities Council.

Dewein noted that efforts to perpetuate the language "should come from all" and not just the elders or the younger members of the Chamorro populace.

People's attitude, however, could pose as a big challenge to such efforts, according to Dewein who has had the same personal experience in her home dialect in the middle part of Germany. "I thought it was uncool to speak it because everyone said it's uncool."

Dewein also pointed out the importance of providing a setting that encourages those who are trying to learn the Chamorro language.

"Even if they're not correct in anything they say, they shouldn't be dismissed for it. They should be encouraged. There needs to be a surrounding in a way in which people feel that it makes sense to speak Chamorro," she said.

Stolz said that their project team is "perhaps the first who tried to help the [Chamorro] speech community by focusing on historical material" since most professional linguists are involved in language endangerment measures and are focused on the current state of the language.

"Of course, they want to protect the language and save it for the future. They concentrate on working with the contemporary speakers. But perhaps for languages whose speakers are interested in reviving the language, the past is as interesting as the present," said Stolz.

The Chamorrica project started last year and is funded by the German Science Foundation.

ESGR WEEK
Lt. Gov. Eloy S. Inos, seated right, shares a light moment with guests in the governor's conference room after signing a proclamation on Tuesday last week declaring Sept. 12 to 16 "Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Week" in the CNMI.
HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

AMP to host 5th Trunk or Treat on Oct. 31

The American Memorial Park will host the 5th Annual Trunk or Treat on Oct. 31, 2011, from 4pm to 7pm, at the Visitor Center parking lot.

This event is an opportunity for CNMI families to gather in a safe place for trick-or-treating. Music will be provided by the Pacific Winds/Manta Ray Orchestras.

Interested companies, organizations, families, and groups are invited to participate. Contact Ranger Susan Fishman-Tudor at (670) 234-7207 or 2020 or fax 234-7211 to signify your interest.

Participants will park their vehicles in the lot and open their trunks to give out candy and other Halloween goodies. Each family or group may decorate their trunk and the area around their vehicle with appropriate Halloween decorations.

This year's theme is "Re-cyghoul Material." Costumes and vehicle decorations should be made of recycled materials. There will be a special prize for the best decorated trunk. Participants must provide their own goodies. There will also be free spooky films in the Visitor Center auditorium. Alcoholic beverages and fires of any kind are prohibited. ***(PR)***

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

Veteran's Day meeting today

The Office of the Military and Veterans Affairs will hold its first meeting for the upcoming celebration of Veteran's Day today, Sept. 20, 2011, on Capital Hill, building 1364 at 9am. Meeting will be held every Tuesday. Everyone is welcome. For more information, call Bernie B. Dela Cruz at 664-2650. ***(PR)***

KagES PTSA meeting set

Kagman Elementary School will have its 1st PTSA meeting for school year 2001-2012 this Wednesday at 6:30pm in the school cafeteria. If you have any questions or concerns feel free to call us at 664-3911/12. ***(PR)***

SSHA PTSA meeting set

To all parent or legal guardian of Saipan Southern High School: There will be a PTSA meeting on Thursday, Sept. 22, 2011, from 6pm to 7pm in the Manta café. ***(PR)***

Kagman center revs up services

The Kagman Community Center is preparing to run youth learning programs—library, homework assistance, health, exercise, and driving practice—with books, equipment, and help of the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library and other agencies starting October.

"We are waiting for more help and donations, especially furniture, vehicles, operation fund, and so on," said Center president Daniel D. Huh. "We can help each other and make our community better. Kagman has the potential to become the best residential area on the island of Saipan. We want to give thanks to those who showed their support: the lawmakers of Precinct 5 and the Senate and the director of JKPL. For more information, call 285-2221, or email kagmancommunity@gmail.com. ***(PR)***

Air Force, Navy to conduct training on FDM, Warning Area-517

SANTA RITA, Guam—The U.S. Air Force will conduct training on the island of Farallon de Mendinilla on Sept. 21-22, from 5:30am to 9pm, and on Sept. 23, from 11am to 9pm. The U.S. Navy will conduct training at Warning Area 517 on Sept. 20-21, from 8:30am to 4:30pm.

The public, especially fisherman, commercial pilots and marine tour operators, are advised to stay clear from the area during the times and dates indicated.

The general location of the training on the island of Farallon de Medinilla training area will be on a 10-nautical mile radius on all quadrants. W-517 is an irregular shaped polygon comprising 14,000 nautical square miles of airspace that begins south of Guam and extends south-southwest in international waters. This will affect fishing in the vicinity of Santa Rosa Reef and Galvez Bank.

For more information, contact the Joint Region Marianas Public Affairs Office at (671) 349-4055/3209. ***(PR)***

Veterans outreach in September

Tina San Agustin, the Department of Veterans Affairs' legal administrative specialist for Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, will be on Saipan on Sept. 28-29, 2011, for a Veterans Outreach on veterans' federal benefits. She will be also entertaining questions and assisting veterans and all concerned with their claims.

Agustin will be stationed at the Military and Veterans Affairs Office on Capitol Hill, building 1364, Saipan, from 8:30am to 4:30pm on both days.

For those who wish to make an appointment or for further information, contact Bernie B. Dela Cruz at the Office of Military and Veterans Affairs at 664-2650. ***(PR)***

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

Sept. 20, 2001

Rota appeals to shipping companies
Alarmed over the rapidly depleting stocks of food items in grocery shops across Rota Island, Mayor Benjamin T. Manglona urged Seabridge Shipping to increase its number of trips to the island. In a letter addressed to the shipping company, Manglona urged Seabridge to consider adding extra trips to Rota to avert any possible shortage of vital goods and basic produce. "It seems that we see your ships very infrequently. Please help us out if you're able. We could use an extra trip or two to prepare for the San Francisco de Borja Fiesta on October 6 to 8," he said.

SGMA asks Ashcroft to reconsider DOJ report
The Saipan Garment Manufacturers Association has taken its concerns over the U.S. Department of Justice's "inaccurate portrayal of the industry" to higher levels in the federal government. SGMA Executive Director Richard A. Pierce last week wrote U.S. Attorney General John Ashcroft branding as totally baseless the allegations made in a recent DOJ report that links some garment factories to the illegal drug trade. He asked that corresponding portions of the report be modified if the allegations prove unfounded. "Years of unrelenting bad publicity for the local garment industry have taken a toll, along with the slipping U.S. economy, in weakening demand for our products," said Pierce told Ashcroft in a Sept. 11, 2001 letter. "Therefore, we are anxious that the present allegation not be allowed to stand if untrue."

Sept. 20, 2002

MVA wants to promote NMI as 'silver city'
The Marianas Visitors Authority is interested in promoting the Northern Marianas as a retirement haven for elderly foreigners and has introduced a proposal to develop a housing area for the retirees. MVA Board Chair David M. Sablan said the visitors authority is specifically targeting Japanese "silver" individuals or those 60 years old and over. "This is a slight deviation from the real job of MVA but we are suggesting to try to promote a housing area for the retirees. This way, they can come in and buy an apartment in the CNMI. There's a definite market for apartments and somebody ought to take a look into this," Sablan suggested.

Bush names Cohen US special rep
President Bush has named David B. Cohen, deputy assistant secretary for Insular Affairs, as the official United States Special Representative to meet with the CNMI to discuss the possibility of continued financial assistance from the U.S. to the CNMI. The President's letter, which was signed Sept. 13, also designates Cohen as the President's special representative to discuss general issues regarding the relationship between the U.S. and the CNMI. The deputy assistant secretary was thankful in his remarks. "The President's appointments represent a challenge of which I am honored and privileged to undertake. These consultations, which are required by the Covenant that established the relationship between the U.S. and the CNMI, are important to both sides."

Sept. 20, 2003

DPH in full compliance with CDC standards
The Department of Public Health fully complies with the bioterrorism preparedness and prevention measures set by the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, according to DPH public information officer John P. Douglas. "CDC informed us that we're in full compliance," said Douglas when asked about the CDC visiting team's onsite inspection last week. Representatives from CDC and U.S. Department of Health and Human Services arrived on Saipan Wednesday to meet with local health officials.

'Demapan opened accounts in BoH'
Former Senate president Juan S. Demapan allegedly opened a new account with the Bank of Hawaii in 1997 to channel portions of the money intended for the $2.7-million classroom construction project. To prove this, U.S. Attorney John Rice presented to the federal jury yesterday afternoon BoH manager Verna Felipe, who testified during direct examination that Demapan opened Account No. 79005380 with BoH on July 9, 1997. A check amounting to $300,000 was deposited in the account, she said. Felipe testified that checks were deposited, issued, and cashed by Demapan on behalf of his company, Demapan Engineering Construction Co.-the firm awarded the contract to build the 60 classrooms for the Public School System.

MLSC gives out nearly 80 bags with school supplies

The 2011 Back-To-School Project sponsored by Micronesian Legal Services Corp. wrapped up another successful year.

MLSC provides a means for attorneys and others to contribute in-cash or in-kind for school supplies for needy children. This is a direct pass-through of all donations. The recipient children come from many of the families that MLSC serves for their legal problems and others referred to the organization from community members.

This year, MLSC distributed 79 backpacks with a full range of supplies inside.

Donations to the project came from more than two dozen members of the Bar Association and staff, Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan and his staff, and Mount Carmel High School's National Honor Society, which conducted an in-school drive to help collect supplies.

"We know that we alone cannot fill the need that exists," said Jane Mack, Marianas Office directing attorney. "We're glad to see other similar projects in the community, and we're proud to be helping in our own way."

The MLSC Back-to-School Project evolved from a personal project of the Marianas Office Directing Attorney in the 1980s, then was adopted by the entire office who wanted to help in the 1990s and eventually expanded when other attorneys in the community also joined the effort. The project has reached out consistently to approximately 75 students each year for the past five years. ***(MLSC)***

Mount Carmel High School's National Honor Society members show off the school supplies they donated to the 2011 Back-To-School Project sponsored by Micronesian Legal Services Corp.
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

GUAM NEWS

Navy Pacific Fleet Rock Band to hold public performances

SANTA RITA, Guam—The Navy Pacific Fleet Rock Band will perform hits from the '60s to the present at public venues on island starting this week.

The band, based out of Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, will perform on the following dates and locations:

- Sept. 21, 6pm at Chamorro Village in Hagatna
- Sept. 23, 7pm at Micronesia Mall's center court in Dededo
- Sept. 24, 11:30am at Guam Premier Outlets' food court in Tamuning
- Sept. 24, 6pm at Agana Shopping Center's center court in Hagatna

The performances are free and open to the public.

During their visit, the band will also mentor music students and perform at George Washington High School, Simon Sanchez High School, F.B. Leon Guerrero Middle School and University of Guam.

Under the operational control of the Commander, United States Pacific Fleet, the Pacific Fleet Band is dedicated to providing top quality music and entertainment in support of the U.S. Navy's retention and recruiting programs, and for internal and external public relations. The rock band is comprised of musicians who combine their talents to entertain audiences in Hawaii and around the world. ***(USN)***

Mental Health and Substance Abuse Department gets $500K grant

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Guam Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo announced Friday that the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services has awarded $500,000 in federal financial assistance to the Guam Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse.

The funding will be used to support DMHSA's *Para Todu* Project, which works to improve and expand services for children and youth with serious emotional disturbances and their families. It was awarded through the HHS System of Care program. This program helps to raise awareness of children with mental health needs through education, training for workforce capacity development, infrastructure development, and professional treatment services.

"This federal grant will help provide services to children and adolescents with mental illness and address behavioral impacts of trauma in our community," said Bordallo. "The System of Care program has been shown to have both short and long-term benefits, including significant reductions in suicide attempts by youth, improved school attendance, and a reduction in the reliance on inpatient care settings. I commend the Department of Mental Health and Substance Abuse for seeking these funds, and I look forward to them benefiting Guam's youth." ***(PR)***

Senate retains $33M for civilian infrastructure during mark-up

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Guam Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo said Friday that the Senate Appropriations Committee included a provision in its mark-up of H.R. 2219, the Department of Defense Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2012, which would allocate $33 million from the Department of Defense's Office of Economic Adjustment for civilian infrastructure improvements to support and sustain the military build-up. The funding is for several projects identified by the Economic Adjustment Committee process last year. The Senate will have to debate and pass the bill on the floor and then send it to conference with the House's bill. The funding had broad support in Guam, including from Gov. Eddie Calvo.

"I thank Chairman Daniel Inouye and members of the Senate Subcommittee on Defense appropriations for supporting the President's Budget and continuing to include $33 million for civilian infrastructure improvements in Guam," said Bordallo. "The appropriators have upheld the federal government's commitment to addressing some of infrastructure needs. This funding is critical to addressing social projects outside the fence in response to the build-up and to ensure that our island is prepared for the relocation of Marines. I will work with my colleagues in the Senate to address how this funding will be best transferred to the Government of Guam. I also want to commend Governor Eddie Calvo for his work and advocacy to support this funding in the Senate." ***(PR)***

Office of Vocational Rehabilitation
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
P.O. Box 501521, Navy Hill – Bldg. N2, Saipan, MP
"Together We Can Build a Future"

PUBLIC NOTICE
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The Office of Vocational Rehabilitation will be closed on 9/22-23/11, Thursday & Friday for its staff's Professional Development/Wellness & Rehabilitation. Please contact 670-287-6538 or nmidir@ovrgov.net to leave a message. Thank you for your continued support and cooperation.

Northern Marianas College
Procurement & Property Management Office
P.O. Box 501250 CK, Saipan, MP 96950 U.S.A.
Tel: (670) 234-5498 ext. 2300/01/02 Fax: (670) 235-7601
E-mail: procurement@nmcnet.edu, Website: www.nmcnet.edu

INVITATION FOR BIDS

NMC BID#: IFB 11-0003

AIR CONDITIONING MAINTENANCE SERVICE

Northern Marianas College is soliciting competitive sealed bids for the procurement of Termite and Pest Control Services.

Specifications and Scope of Work packages may be picked up at the **NMC Procurement Office, Bldg. L, 2nd Floor, commencing Monday (August 22, 2011) to Friday between the hours of 8: 30-11:30 a.m. and 1:00-4:00 p.m.**

Bid Packages are due no later than 10:00 a.m. September 20, 2011, at Northern Marianas College, As Terlaje Campus, Procurement Office, Bldg. L, 2nd Floor, Saipan, MP 96950. You may request a copy of the IFB 11-0003 packet via fax (670) 235-7601 or e-mail to Anita Camacho (anitac@nmcnet.edu).

Sealed bids must be marked "NMC IFB 11-0003" for bidders within the CNMI, an original and 4 copies of sealed bids must be submitted to NMC Procurement and Property Management Office, no later than 10:00 a.m local time September 20, 2011. Bidders outside the CNMI may obtain an additional (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of intent to bid. Notice of intent to bid must be received by the Procurement and Property Manager no later than 10:00am local time September 20, 2011 and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 235-7601 or via email to anitac@nmcnet.edu. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and 4 copy of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than September 20, 2011. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the NMC Procurement and Property Management Office, As Terlaje Campus on September 20, 2011 at 1:30pm. However, if notices of intent to bid are received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at September 28, 2011 at 1:300pm.

This solicitation does not constitute an offer and does not obligate the College in any way. The NMC reserves the right to reject any and/or all bids for any reason and waive any defect in said bids, or cancel in part or its entirety this IFB, if it deems, in its sole discretion, it is in the best interest of the College. All costs incurred by the proposer to prepare a response to this solicitation and subsequent inquiries shall be borne by the proposer. All submittals shall become the property of NMC.

/s/ Anita Camacho
NMC Procurement Manager

/s/ John D. Guerrero
Facilities Manager

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DISCONNECTION NOTICE

IT&E would like to remind its customers that payments not received by close of business on **September 20**, will result in temporary suspension of all telephone services after 6:00 p.m. on that day. To prevent temporary suspension, customers must pay their bills on or before **September 20**.

THIS WILL BE THE ONLY NOTIFICATION IT&E CUSTOMERS WILL RECEIVE*.

* You have the right to dispute this notice. You must state your claim in person or in writing no later than **September 20**. You must pay any amount not in dispute to avoid disconnection. Payment denotes acceptance of all charges.

If you have questions regarding billing or service, Please call Customer Service at **682-4ITE (4483)** or Visit any IT&E CS Center nearest you.

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To avoid disconnection you may pay your IT&E bill at any location below:
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TSL Plaza – up to 6:00pm
Online payment – up to 9:00pm

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
Volume XXI, Issue No. 223

Published daily at 2/F JP Center,
Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP, 96950

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Mark Rabago ASSISTANT EDITOR

MEMBER

The Associated Press | Pacific Islands News Association

EDITORIAL

America the poor

The Census Bureau reported Tuesday that almost one in six Americans was living below the federal poverty line in 2010, the highest percentage since 1993 and the largest number in at least five decades. The same day, the head of the Congressional Budget Office told a newly created deficit-reduction committee that the federal government couldn't sustain the services it had been providing for decades without major reductions in other spending, significant increases in taxes or both.

As distressing as those presentations were, they merely reinforced what is already common knowledge: The economy is in terrible shape, and the federal government can't afford to do much to help. Even if it could, the efforts by the Bush and Obama administrations since 2008 show how hard it is for Washington to revive an economy stalled by a financial crisis, even if it is willing to spend billions of dollars trying.

One lesson from the Census Bureau's report is how important the federal safety net is during a downturn. Unemployment insurance, food stamps and tax credits for the working poor lifted the incomes of 3 million to 5 million U.S. households above the poverty line in 2010. These programs are embattled because they're costly, but they're also proving their worth as a buffer against the ravages of the downturn.

Another lesson is that the recession amplified some disturbing trends that had emerged long before the subprime mortgage meltdown. The rapid rise in poverty from 2008 through 2010 is emblematic of how much worse those at the lower end of the income scale have fared than those at the upper end, in bad times or good. Over the long term, more of the country's income and assets have been steadily concentrated in fewer hands. Folks in the middle saw disproportionate losses too. Median household income fell more than $1,100 in 2010, and is down 7% from its peak in 1999.

The problem goes beyond the current downturn; it's meek, bubble-fueled growth that stretches back for years. No matter who has been in power, the government's attempts to spur growth haven't translated into a sustainable improvement in the lives of most Americans. That's the real challenge posed by the Census Bureau's numbers.

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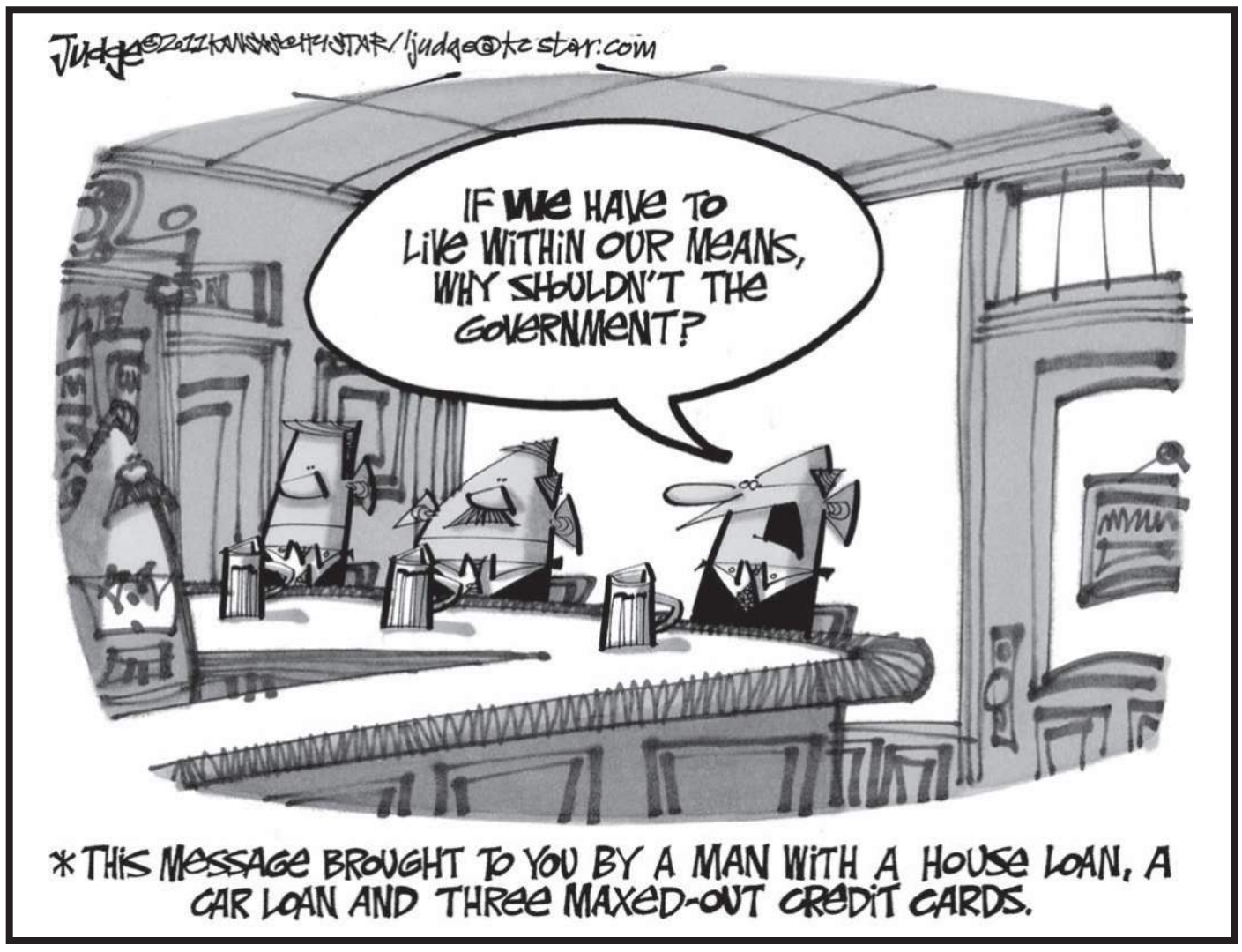
Jackie Kennedy, warts and all

A newly released series of interviews with Jacqueline Kennedy, recorded in 1964, just months after President John F. Kennedy was assassinated, offers an extraordinary and occasionally shocking glimpse of a woman enshrined in our popular culture as a figure of grace, fortitude and civility. In the conversations, the then-34-year-old widow reveals herself as variously audacious, narrow-minded and unsparingly tart. She called Indira Gandhi "a real prune—bitter, kind of pushy," and said she had told Soviet Premier Nikita Khrushchev at a dinner to stop boring her with statistics on Ukraine. (He laughed.)

See AMERICA on Next Page


IF WE HAVE TO LIVE WITHIN OUR MEANS, WHY SHOULDN'T THE GOVERNMENT?
*THIS MESSAGE BROUGHT TO YOU BY A MAN WITH A HOUSE LOAN, A CAR LOAN AND THREE MAXED-OUT CREDIT CARDS.

Stupid things men say to pregnant women

By JOHN KASS
Chicago Tribune

John Kass is a columnist for the Chicago Tribune. *Readers may send him email at jskass@tribune.com.*

My young assistant, Shooter, has been making many lists lately, telling me where she put this file and that file, and just the other night as she left work, she offered me yet another.

The list of "Stupid Things Men Say to Pregnant Women."

"It's a work in progress," she said, heavy with child. "We could add to it."

Naturally, I was deathly afraid I was on her list for saying something stupid about flip-flops in the office, so I quietly edged away from Shooter and considered the last nine months and all the stupid things I probably said.

OK, I give up. How many stupid things did I say?

"Your stupid thing is No. 5," she told me.

Shooter is my legman, the tenacious young reporter who helps me with the column. There have been several such legmen over the years, all of them tenacious, beginning with the legendary Slim the Legman, then Mrs. Flynn, the Swede, Spartacus, Wings and now Shooter.

The interesting thing about Shooter—who loves to play craps in Las Vegas—is she found out she was pregnant in January. And by coincidence, that's the same week I quit smoking for good. What fun.

We work long hours on deadline in a little office about the size of a broom closet. And when she was feeling nauseous, I was having nicotine withdrawals.

Later, as her nausea subsided, I toyed with the idea of writing a series of columns about our experience, sort of a "What Kind of Stupid Things to Expect Your Boss Who Quit Smoking Will Say When You're Expecting, As You Both Eat More Pie."

Instead, Shooter quietly compiled her list of "Stupid Things Men Say to Pregnant Women":

Stupid Thing No. 1. Just got home around 8:30 after a long day of working and (barfing) and husband says, "So, when do you want to have another one?"

Stupid Thing No. 2. Random guy on Michigan Avenue: "Are you having twins? Are you sure?"

Stupid Thing No. 3. Shooter is eating dinner with her mom, dad and yia-yia (grandmother), as they talk about Shooter having already packed a bag for the hospital.

Shooter's dad: "Yeah. And you should pack a Sudoku puzzle or something. … You know, you might have a lot of waiting time."

Shooter nobly resists the urge to stab her father in the hand with a fork.

Stupid Thing No. 4. Shooter's skinny husband, Dr. Pete, says, "I think I need to lose some weight. My pants are a little tight."

Stupid Thing No. 5. Shooter's Stupid Columnist Boss takes her to Shaw's for lunch and orders iced raw oysters.

Stupid Boss: "Shooter? These are really, really good. Fresh. You can taste the sea. Do you like oysters?"

Shooter: "Yes."

Stupid Boss. "Mmmm. These are so good. Oh, can you eat raw oysters when you're pregnant?"

Shooter: "No."

She would have liked Shaw's well enough before she was expecting, but then, things change. And if you're a man and ask why, then all you're doing is proving that you have the capacity to say stupid things to pregnant women.

So don't question. It just is, that's all.

But with me quitting smoking and Shooter pregnant, at least we had month after month of excellent meals. She learned of the peppers and sausage and the risotto at Volare, the meats and various cheeses at The Purple Pig, the New Orleans beignets at Grand Lux Cafe, the pies at Joe's Stone Crab, the green curry beef at Star of Siam, that killer 12-buck sushi lunch at Oysy and so on and so on.

After nine months of this, I now require a combination of three mirrors to see the tops of my shoes, so I'm going back on that South Beach diet.

But like I told Dr. Pete, when the baby arrives, be like the wolf. Bring the rabbits to the cave. Keep your mouth shut. And do exactly what she says.

"Rabbits to the cave?" asked Dr. Pete. "I don't understand."

He will.

A few hours after Shooter made the list of stupid things, she began texting me, furiously:

"You've got all the passwords and I have the source list and the documents from the police story are on my desk top and we'll get more documents over the weekend. We will see. I have the binder with your clipped columns. Almost up to date. Just have to do last three weeks …"

By then, she was at the hospital, dilating, about ready to give birth, but still compelled to type on the BlackBerry. It was the reporter in her, trying to get that one last story. Don't question it. Or you'd be saying something stupid.

And then, it happened. Born to Shooter and Dr. Pete was a beautiful baby boy with a full head of hair like some mountain warrior.

His name? Constantine Angelo "Dean" Lourgos.

That just so happens to be a great soccer name. So don't be surprised if you see him playing midfield for the U.S. men's national team in about 20 years.

If I ask Shooter to let me tie a soccer ball to his left foot, so he develops before the other kids, would that be stupid?

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Meeting the deadline: General guidelines

IMMIGRATION FORUM

By MAYA KARA and BRUCE MAILMAN
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Maya Kara is a native of Hungary and comes to the practice of law by way of her interest in Asian history. Bruce Mailman is a native of Bakersfield, California and was a private investigator in California prior to becoming a lawyer. Both have lived and practiced law in the CNMI for over 20 years, Maya in government service and Bruce in private practice. They are married and are partners in the law firm of Mailman & Kara, LLC in Garapan, Saipan.

We are very glad that the long-awaited final regulations with respect to CW status are finally available. Questions abound, but we now have basic guidance for the employment of foreign workers in the CNMI beyond the Nov. 28 deadline. This week will see a flurry of public outreach events by USCIS on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. We strongly urge that both employers and employees attend one of these sessions. Once everyone understands the big picture, we can all concentrate on the details that still need to be worked out. Accordingly, we will hold off on detailed discussion of the CW regs today; rather we will concentrate on some basic guidelines that everyone needs to understand.

The Nov. 28 deadline

By Nov. 28, 2011, all aliens in the Commonwealth must have some form of status under the immigration laws of the United States. On that day, all Commonwealth-issued entry permits, work permits, or other documents relating to permission to live and or work in the Commonwealth will expire, and will cease to have any effect. This includes not only contract workers' umbrella permits but investor, retiree, religious, student, and other permits. This is a deadline that is created by federal law; it cannot be extended administratively. It can only be extended if the CRNA is amended by legislation passed by both houses of the U.S. Congress and signed by the President; there is simply no time for that to happen. All aliens who are present in the CNMI on Nov. 28, 2011, but who lack some form of U.S. status will be subject to removal by ICE.

Filing on time

In the usual case, an applicant must file and USCIS must receive any application by a given deadline. However, with respect to the filing of CW-1 and CW-2 applications we have some leeway: USCIS will consider as filed all CW applications with a postmark up to and including Nov. 28, 2011. Applications for most other forms of status by aliens currently present in the CNMI, such as H-1, H2, L-1A, EB-1C, R-1, must be *received* by USCIS before Nov. 28. Our experience is that in order to ensure timely delivery, applications should be sent out by Express Mail or courier service 10 days ahead of any deadline. Always be sure to send by some method that includes tracking and proof of delivery. We have been recommending Express Mail over certified (with return receipt requested), simply because certified is the slowest form of first class mail.

Making the application

For employment-based applications, which includes among others, CW-1, H-1, H-2, L-1, EB-1C, and R-1, the employer must make the application; the employee cannot. For CW-2, which is the available status for spouses and minor children of CW's, the employee must make the petition; the employer has no obligation to file for dependents of his workers. The primary petition for CW-1 can be filed concurrently with the petition for dependents (CW-2).

For family-based applications, such as green cards for immediate relatives, the U.S. citizen ("USC") or lawful permanent resident ("LPR") relative must file a petition for alien relative (Form 1-130), and the alien relative files the application adjustment of status (Form I-485); we typically file both together as part of a complete application package. The only exceptions to the rule that the sponsoring relative file an I-130 are self-petitioning widows and widowers of USCs and abused spouses or children of USCs or LPRs filing under the Violence Against Women Act ("VAWA"), who can file for themselves using a different form, the Form I-360 self-petition.

Please keep in mind that if you are filing as the widow or widower of a USC, and your USC spouse died more than two years ago, you must file before Oct. 28, 2011. If you do not file by Oct. 28—and a postmark on or before Oct. 28 won't cut it—then you will be barred from filing the application in the future.

Options for umbrella permit holders

All umbrella permits issued by the CNMI government will expire on Nov. 27, 2011. In order to lawfully remain in the CNMI beyond that date, holders of umbrella permits must do one of the following:

1. Obtain an employment-based status. If you are employed, get your employer to file for an employment-based visa for you. In most cases, this will be a CW-1; you can file CW-2 for your spouse and minor children (under 18). If you are a professional with at least a four-year degree, and you are working within your profession, and the job requires the professional degree, you may be eligible for H-1 status. If you are eligible for H-1, or other nonimmigrant status, you cannot apply for CW. This determination is sometimes difficult to make, and we recommend that you and your employer seek legal advice if you do not clearly fit into H-1 status.

There is a special filing deadline of Nov. 27, 2011, for executive and managerial employees who qualify as multinational intracompany transferees, and who intend to apply for either L-1A (nonimmigrant) or EB-1C (immigrant) visas. Both visas require that the employee have worked in the same capacity for the same employer (or a related foreign company) at least one of the three years immediately preceding the application. If these employees' qualifying "foreign" employment was all served in the CNMI—which is possible because prior to Nov. 28, 2009 all CNMI businesses were considered "foreign" for immigration purposes—then looking backward from Nov. 28, 2011, the employee can no longer claim a full year out of the last three for the "foreign" CNMI employer. Note that this application will only work if the CNMI company still has a foreign parent, subsidiary, affiliate, or branch. We've written about this before, including in our most recent column, but we want to emphasize that, like the widows and widowers deadline, this is a one-time opportunity.

There are other employment-based visas, for professionals, investors, and religious workers, among others, but they are beyond the scope of today's discussion.

2. Obtain a family-based immigration status: A "green card" is an immigrant status based on your family relationship to a USC or LPR. Eligibility for a green card does not deprive you of the opportunity to get CW status. If you cannot afford the filing fees to become an LPR, or you are not yet eligible (for example if your USC child is not yet 21), or you are not ready to apply for some other reason, you may choose to wait to file for a green card and get by with a CW in the meantime. Whether applying for a green card is a solution for you to meet the Nov. 28 deadline for U.S. status depends on your relationship to the USC or LPR and also on your country of origin. The general categories are as follows:

a. IRs of U.S. citizens: If you are the spouse of a U.S. citizen, the parent of a U.S. citizen who is over 21 years of age; or the child (under 21) of a U.S. citizen, you have an immediate green card available to you. You will need to file the appropriate application and, as long as the application is received by USCIS before Nov. 28, you will likely be protected from removal while the application is pending. Note that whether you file before or after Nov. 28, USCIS will still process your application and, if you are approved, issue your green card. But if you file after Nov. 28, ICE may consider that you are out of status between Nov. 28 and the date you are approved as an LPR. The consequences may be different, however, depending on when you file. If you are eligible now, you should file now, or at least get CW status while waiting to file for a green card. (See our Sept. 6 column for a more detailed discussion of the pros and cons for overstayers filing for green cards.)

b. Family members of USCs and LPRs: If you are the unmarried son or daughter (over 21) of a USC; the married son or daughter of a USC; a spouse or child (under 21) or the unmarried son or daughter (over 21) of an LPR; or the brother or sister (of any age) of a USC, you are eligible to apply for a green card but you have a long wait ahead of you. The length of the wait depends on your relationship and the country of your origin. Please consult http://travel.state.gov/visa/bulletin for current wait times. Right now, wait times for available visa numbers range from almost three years to 23 years. If you are in one of these categories, you will either have to get some form of a non-immigrant status such as CW in order to remain in the CNMI. However, it would be a good idea for your relative to file a petition of alien relative (I-130) now in order to get the process started. If you cannot obtain CW or other status, you may need to return to your country of origin to wait until your visa number comes up, and then apply for a green card through the U.S. Consulate there.

3. Obtain a parole-in-place plus work authorization: This is an option of last resort because parole is adjudicated on a case-by-case basis and it involves the discretion of the adjudicating officer. There is no absolute right to a parole; it is a humanitarian cushion to relieve the harshness of immigration laws, and it is entirely within the discretion of USCIS to grant or deny a parole. That being said, USCIS has identified certain specifically protected categories to whom parole-in-place will be generally available. These are: CNMI permanent residents, their IRs and surviving IRs, and the IRs and surviving IRs of FAS citizens. It also includes persons to whom the CNMI or USCIS has granted refugee status.

As for anyone else, unless you can show some seriously compelling circumstance, such as perhaps a severely disabled USC child who would not be able to obtain treatment in the home country, your chances of getting this form of relief are uncertain. Being poor, or out of work, or unable to get work in the home country, or having minor USC children is usually not enough.

Options for aliens with no umbrella permits

Unfortunately, there is no one-size-fits-all solution for this category of people. Many people who would have been entitled to umbrella permits did not get them, for one reason or another. Some people who did not get umbrella permits, but whose underlying CNMI entry permits had not yet expired, were given parole-in-place through Nov. 27, 2011. Persons in this category, if they are employed, can apply for CW or other employment based non-immigrant categories by Nov. 28, just like anyone with an umbrella permit.

There are several categories of aliens for whom we cannot offer any options at this time. These are unemployed people with or without umbrella permits; IRs of USCs who cannot afford the filing fees for a green card; abandoned spouses; parents of U.S. citizen children who are under 21 on the Nov. 28 cutoff; common law spouses who may have umbrella permits but who do not work and are not eligible for any non-immigrant or immigrant U.S. status. We hope that some form of humanitarian relief may be offered to at least some of these people.

The information contained in this column is intended as general information only, and not as individual legal advice. Readers should obtain professional legal advice before taking action with respect to their individual situations. Readers may submit questions regarding federalization or immigration issues to the authors by email to lexmarianas@pticom.com. Readers may also e-mail written questions through the Saipan Tribune *at editor@saipantribune.com.*

AMERICA

From Page 10

After being told by her husband of some of the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr.'s alleged sexual peccadilloes after "that freedom march thing," she called the civil rights leader "a phony." She declared that women should never be in politics—"we're just not suited to it"—and recalled that she told an interviewer, "I get all my opinions from my husband" (all evidence here to the contrary).

Most of our idols have flaws. But in a family that has ruthlessly guarded the images of President Kennedy and his wife and presented them both as admirable and heroic, it is significant and commendable that Caroline Kennedy would allow the release of these interviews, showing a fuller, more complex, sometimes disconcerting, even disappointing picture of her mother.

These particular interviews were always going to be made public eventually, but Caroline Kennedy's decision to publish them as part of the commemoration of the 50th anniversary of JFK's presidency was a brave one. At a time when there could have been only hagiographic reminiscences, this is a compelling and necessary contribution to a fuller portrait of the Kennedy years.

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Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Mostly cloudy with isolated showers. Light and variable winds.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers. Southeast winds 10 to 15 mph.	Mostly cloudy with scattered showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲87° ▼77°	▲86° ▼77°	▲86° ▼75°	▲87° ▼77°	▲87° ▼77°

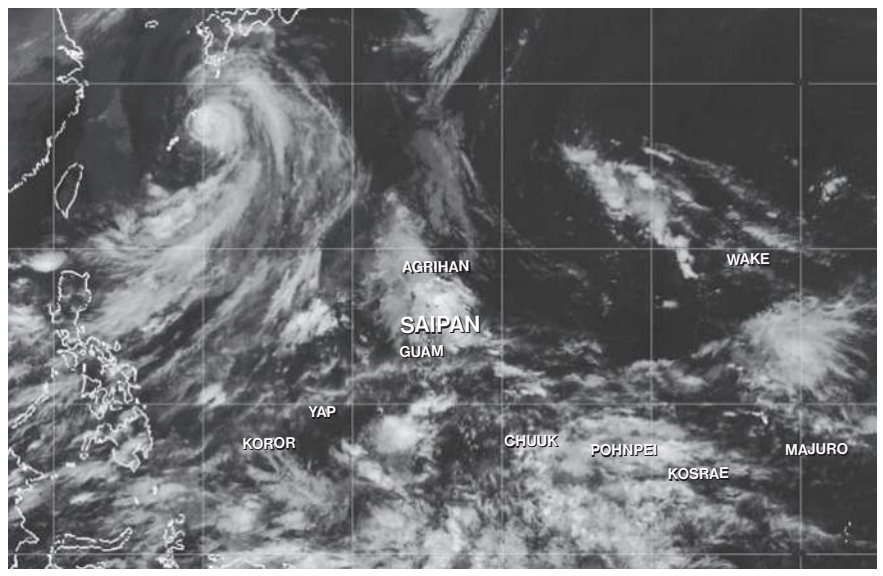
Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thunderstorms	▲84	▼78
Palau	Thunderstorms	▲84	▼77
Yap	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼77
Chuuk	Rain	▲82	▼76
Pohnpei	Rain	▲87	▼73
Kosrae	Showers	▲88	▼77
Majuro	Thunderstorms	▲85	▼76

Around The Globe

Auckland	Sunny	▲59	▼50
Beijing	Sunny	▲78	▼53
Hong Kong	Thundershowers	▲88	▼78
Honolulu	Sunny	▲89	▼76
London	Rain	▲65	▼51
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲83	▼62
Manila	Thundershowers	▲86	▼80
Melbourne	Showers	▲64	▼52
Miami	Thundershowers	▲89	▼78
New York	Mostly Sunny	▲69	▼59
Osaka	Thunderstorms	▲79	▼73
Paris	Partly Cloudy	▲71	▼55
Pusan	Windy	▲75	▼67
Rome	Mostly Sunny	▲79	▼60
Salem	Partly Cloudy	▲78	▼50
San Francisco	Sunny	▲79	▼61
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	▲74	▼58
Tokyo	Thunderstorms	▲81	▼76
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	▲73	▼64

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 2011
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Scattered showers and a few thunderstorms associated with severe Tropical Storm Roke (18W) well northeast of Okinawa are found extending into our region west of 135E and north of 17N just to the northwest of the Marianas. An upper-level disturbance is creating an extensive area of scattered to numerous showers and thunderstorms between 14N and 21N from 141E to 145E south of Palau and Yap. Monsoon flow is aiding an area of scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms from the equator to 3N between 130E and 152E north of this weak troughs in the trades are helping to maintain areas of scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms in Yap state from 4N to 8N between 137E and 145E and also east of Chuuk in Pohnpei state from the equator to 9N between 153E to 162E. This area begins just west of Kosrae. in the Marshalls. Scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms are occurring in a trade-wind trough north of Kwajalein from 10N to 15N between 165E and 172E and also along trade-wind ITCZ convergence within 50 miles of line from 9N170E to 7N180.

Tides

Saipan Harbor

6:45 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet
2:09 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.5 Feet
7:05 PM	Today	Low Tide:	1.3 Feet
11:53 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.6 Feet

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	6:06 AM	6:15 PM
Wednesday	6:06 AM	6:15 PM
Thursday	6:06 AM	6:14 PM
Friday	6:06 AM	6:13 PM
Saturday	6:06 AM	6:12 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	11:43 PM	12:11 PM
Wednesday		1:02 PM
Thursday	12:38 AM	1:51 PM
Friday	1:34 AM	2:40 PM
Saturday	2:32 AM	3:27 PM

GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

PICTURES

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

For pictures:

- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

For announcements:

- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

HOW TO SUBMIT

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

POLICY

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

CUSTOMER SERVICE For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

SUBSCRIPTION Published Monday to Saturday, *Saipan Tribune* offers door-to-door on-island delivery at an annual rate of $160. For additional subscription information, call (670) 235-8747 or 235-2769, or fax 235-3740.

ADVERTISING For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF AUGUST 24, 2011

DEPARTURES

GUAM (GUM)-ROTA (ROP)			
C09314	2:20am	2:50am	1, 5
SAIPAN (SPN)-ROTA (ROP)			
C09315	4:25am	5:00am	1, 5
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)			
C09317	4:25am	5:15am	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
C09315	4:25am	6:00am	1, 5 via ROP
C09313	7:55am	8:45am	3, 6
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09603	3:05pm	3:55pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
5K386	5:50pm	6:40pm	4
C09605	6:35pm	7:25pm	Daily
C09599	9:35pm	10:25pm	Daily
SAIPAN-NAGOYA (NGO)			
5K212	8:20am	10:55am	1, 3, 4, 5, 7
SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)			
OZ119	4:00am	6:40am	Daily
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)			
DL287	6:05am	8:45am	Daily
DL297	4:35pm	7:15pm	Daily
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)			
OZ606	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ606	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
OZ119	4:00am	11:25am	Daily via KIX
OZ604	3:30pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7
SAIPAN-GUANZHOU (CAN)			
3U8646	4:20am	7:30am	2, 6
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)			
3U8648	6:05am	8:30am	1, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)			
OZ606/701	2:20am	11:15am	1 via ICN
OZ606/701	2:50am	11:15am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
C09317/191	4:25am	9:45am	3, 6 via GUM
DL287/173	6:05am	9:55pm	Daily via NRT
C09313/183	7:55am	8:40pm	3, 6 via GUM
C09603/183	3:05pm	8:40pm	1, 2, 4, 5, 7 via GUM
C09603/193	3:05pm	10:10pm	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
C09599/PR111	9:30pm	7:50am	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM
SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)			
OZ606/721	2:20am	11:50am	1 via ICN
OZ606/721	2:50am	11:50am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN
C09603/179	3:05pm	9:25pm	1, 5 via GUM
OZ604/749	3:30pm	11:00pm	7 via ICN

ARRIVALS

ROTA (ROP)-GUAM (GUM)			
C09315	5:30am	6:00am	1, 5
ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN (SPN)			
C09314	3:20am	3:55am	1, 5
GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
C09314	2:20am	3:55am	1, 5 via ROP
C09316	2:45am	3:35am	2, 3, 4, 6, 7
5K387	6:30am	7:20am	3, 4, 7
C09596	6:35am	7:25am	3, 6
C09596	7:00am	7:50am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09600	10:05am	10:55am	1, 2, 4, 5, 7
C09602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7
C09604	5:10pm	6:00pm	Daily
C09606	8:10pm	9:00pm	Daily
NAGOYA (NGO)-SAIPAN			
5K213	11:55am	4:25pm	1, 3, 4, 5, 7
OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN			
OZ120	9:50pm	2:20am+1	Daily
NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
DL298	10:25am	3:00pm	Daily
DL288	8:05pm	12:45am+1	Daily
SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN			
OZ603	9:00am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7
OZ120	7:10pm	2:20am+1	Daily via KIX
OZ605	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7
OZ605	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
GUANZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN			
3U8645	7:40pm	3:00am+1	1, 5
SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN			
3U8647	10:40pm	5:00am+1	4, 7
MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ704/603	12:10am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
DL172/288	7:45am	12:35am+1	Daily via NRT
OZ702/605	12:45pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ702/605	12:45pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
C0190/9606	10:55am	9:00pm	3, 6 via GUM
C0192/9596	9:55pm	7:25am+1	2, 5 via GUM-Palau
C0184/9596	10:55pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
C0184/9596	11:25pm	7:50am+1	2, 5 via GUM
PR110/C09596	10:00pm	7:25am	5, via GUM
PR110/C09596	10:00pm	7:50am	1, 3, 6, 7 via GUM
HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN			
OZ724/603	12:30am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7 via ICN
OZ750/603	1:00am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6 via ICN
OZ722/605	1:25pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN
OZ722/605	1:25pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN
C0180/9596	10:30pm	7:25am+1	5 via GUM
C0180/9596	10:30pm	7:50am+1	1 via GUM

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 5K: FlyGuam; 3U: Sichuan Airlines; CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana

ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The *Saipan Tribune* is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam–Rota			
FRE 100	7:30	8:00	Daily
Rota–Saipan			
FRE 100	8:20	8:50	Daily
Guam–Rota			
FRE 300	17:00	17:30	Daily
Rota–Saipan	17:50	18:20	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 200	9:30	10:00	Daily
Rota–Guam	10:20	10:45	Daily
Saipan–Rota			
FRE 400	18:55	19:25	Daily
Rota–Guam			
FRE 400	19:40	20:10	Daily
Saipan–Tinian			
FRE 101	6:45	6:55	Daily
FRE 103	7:30	7:40	Daily
FRE 105	8:00	8:10	Daily
FRE 107	8:40	8:50	Daily
FRE 109	9:10	9:20	Daily
FRE 111	10:45	10:55	Daily

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
FRE 115	13:00	13:10	Daily
FRE 117	14:30	14:40	Daily
FRE 119	16:00	16:10	Daily
FRE 121	16:40	16:50	Daily
FRE 123	17:40	17:50	Daily
FRE 125	18:30	18:40	Daily
Tinian–Saipan			
FRE 102	7:05	7:15	Daily
FRE 104	7:50	8:00	Daily
FRE 106	8:20	8:30	Daily
FRE 108	9:00	9:10	Daily
FRE 110	10:00	10:10	Daily
FRE 112	11:05	11:15	Daily
FRE 114	12:00	12:10	Daily
FRE 116	13:30	13:40	Daily
FRE 118	14:50	15:00	Daily
FRE 120	16:20	16:30	Daily
FRE 122	17:00	17:10	Daily
FRE 124	18:05	18:15	Daily
FRE 126	18:50	19:00	Daily

Business

Obama to propose $1.5 trillion in new tax revenue

WASHINGTON (AP)—Drawing a bright line with congressional Republicans, President Barack Obama is proposing $1.5 trillion in new tax revenue as part of his long-term deficit reduction plan, according to senior administration officials.

The president on Monday will announce a proposal that includes repeal of Bush-era tax cuts for the wealthiest taxpayers, nearly $250 billion in reductions in Medicare spending, $330 billion in cuts in other mandatory benefit programs, and savings of $1 trillion from the withdrawal of troops from Iraq and Afghanistan, the officials said.

The plan includes no changes in Social Security and does not include an increase in the Medicare eligibility age, which the president had considered this summer.

The officials briefed reporters Sunday evening, but spoke on the condition of anonymity in advance of the president's announcement.

All in all, the president's plan is as much an opening bid as it is a political statement designed to draw contrasts with Republicans, who control the House of Representatives.

As such, it was not intended as a compromise and did not include agreements Obama had reached with House Speaker John Boehner during failed deficit reduction negotiations this summer.

Obama

The new taxes in particular have little or no chance of passing Congress as proposed. Republicans were already lining up against the president's tax proposal before they even knew the magnitude of what he intended to recommend.

The $1.5 trillion in tax revenue would include about $800 billion realized over 10 years from repealing the Bush-era tax rates for couples making more than $250,000. It also would place limits on deductions for wealthy filers and end certain corporate loopholes and subsidies for oil and gas companies. By adding the tax revenue, about $580 billion in proposed mandatory spending cuts, the savings from troop withdrawals and $1 trillion in spending cuts already in place, the combined deficit reduction would total about $4 trillion over 10 years. The administration also identified $430 billion in savings from lower interest payment on the debt.

Obama backed away from proposing sweeping changes to Medicare, following the advice of fellow Democrats that it would only give political cover to a privatization plan supported by House Republicans that turned to be unpopular with older Americans.

Administration officials said 90 percent of the $248 billion in 10-year Medicare cuts would be squeezed from service providers. The plan does shift some additional costs to beneficiaries, but those changes would not start until 2017, and administration officials made clear as well that Obama would veto any Medicare cuts that aren't paired with tax increases on upper-income people.

The president's plan also called for cuts of $72 billion over ten years from Medicaid, the federal-state health care program for low-income people and the severely disabled. States, hospitals and advocates for the poor are expected to resist those.

Last Borders shoppers wistful, looking for deals

NEW YORK (AP)—The scene this weekend at the last of the remaining Borders bookstores to close was more like a memorial service than a funeral. Shoppers reminisced fondly about their beloved bookseller rather than grieve its loss.

Amid upbeat jazz music and large red-and-yellow signs announcing the "Final Days" of the Borders store in Queens in New York City, customers snagged deals on used chairs and coffee machines. At a Borders in Cincinnati, readers were eager to grab book titles for up to 90 percent off. And signs at a Borders in Cambridge, Massachusetts, implored shoppers to haggle: "No Reasonable Offer Refused."

"I find it really sad," said Victoria Florea, 49, who was looking for discounts this weekend at the Cambridge store so she could use her $50 gift card before it closes. "I'm glad to get these bargains, but I'm sad at the same time."

Borders, an Ann Arbor, Michigan-based chain that pioneered the big-box bookselling concept and grew to 1,249 stores at its peak in 2003, will cease to exist by the end of the day on Sunday. It's a victim of a shift in the industry brought on by customers who'd much rather read their favorite titles on an electronic book or tablet computer than turn the page on a paperback. The chain's demise is expected to have wide-reaching effects on everyone from authors and publishers who will have to find new ways to market their work to competitors like Barnes & Noble that will benefit from losing a big rival.

"The absence of Borders is going to be felt across the industry," said Michael Norris, a Simba Information senior trade analyst. "The loss of the `showroom' effect of bookstores is not going to be replaced anytime soon."

Started in 1971, Borders grew to become a giant in the industry, operating Borders and Waldenbooks bookstores. But the company failed to adapt quickly to the changing industry and lost sales to the Internet, discounters and other competition. It filed for bankruptcy protection in February and has since shuttered stores and laid off thousands of employees. Borders began liquidating its remaining 399 stores in July when a $215 million "white knight" bid by a private-equity firm dissolved under objections from creditors and lenders who argued the chain would be worth more if it were liquidated immediately.

A few vestiges of Borders will remain. Books-A-Million is taking over 14 stores. And bidders including Barnes & Noble and Malaysian company Berjaya Books (which operated some Borders in Malaysia) will take over $15.8 million in Borders' intellectual property. That includes trademarks; the Borders, Waldenbooks and Brentano's trade names; Internet domain names; and the Borders.com e-commerce website.

That's little solace to some shoppers who were taking advantage of the deals at the remaining Borders stores this weekend. Many wondered where they would shop once the chain disappears—even though many of them already are migrating to online booksellers and discount chains.

Steve Mannix on Friday carried out 10 books and two magazines for $11.79 total at the Waldenbooks store in Cincinnati's Western Hills neighborhood.

AP

In this Sept. 15, 2011 file photo, Sue Schmidt of Shaker Heights, Ohio, sits on the floor to sort through her potential purchases in a nearly-empty Borders bookstore in Solon, Ohio.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Strauss-Kahn denies violence in sex assault cases

PARIS (AP)—Dominique Strauss-Kahn broke his silence four months after a New York hotel maid accused him of sexual assault, calling his encounter with the woman a "moral failing" he deeply regrets, but insisting in an interview on French television Sunday that no violence was involved. Strauss-Kahn, the former head of the International Monetary Fund and a one-time top presidential contender in his native France, also denied using violence against a French writer who claims he tried to rape her in a separate 2003 incident. Throughout what appeared to be a heavily scripted 20-minute-long interview with French broadcaster TF1, Strauss-Kahn managed to come off as contrite even as the Socialist politician insisted he hadn't forced himself on either of the women.

Oil falls to below $87 amid stronger US dollar

SINGAPORE (AP)—Oil prices fell to below $87 a barrel Monday in Asia as investor concerns about Europe's debt crisis fueled a stronger U.S. dollar. Benchmark oil for October delivery was down $1.11 at $86.85 at midday Singapore time in electronic trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange. Crude dropped $1.44 to settle at $87.96 on Friday. In London, Brent crude for November delivery was down 50 cents at $111.72 on the ICE Futures exchange.

Russian tycoon punches fellow billionaire on TV

MOSCOW (AP)—A Russian tycoon has punched a fellow billionaire on a television panel show after a discussion on the financial crisis degenerated into petty name-calling. Alexander Lebedev, a former KGB operative and owner of two major newspapers in Britain, wrote on his blog that property developer Sergei Polonsky had earned the clobbering by behaving abusively throughout the recording of the program. In a preview clip posted on the NTV channel's website before the show airing Sunday evening, Polonsky is seen saying that he sometimes felt like "bashing (Lebedev) in the face," prompting the newspaper owner to jump to his feet.

UBS CEO not resigning, loss mounts to $2.3 billion

GENEVA (AP)—Oswald Gruebel, the chief executive of UBS, has dismissed calls for his resignation as politically motivated, even as the Swiss banking giant raised its rogue trading loss to $2.3 billion.

UBS AG had previously put the loss at $2 billion when news of the scandal first broke Thursday.

In a bid to reassure investors, the Zurich-based bank said Sunday it has "now covered the risk resulting from the unauthorized trading" and its equities business "is again operating normally within its previously defined risk limits."

UBS also confirmed for the first time that the trader, 31-year-old Kweku Adoboli, was already under investigation by the bank when he revealed his actions to authorities Wednesday.

"The loss resulted from unauthorized speculative trading in various S&P 500, DAX, and EuroStoxx index futures over the last three months," UBS said, adding that the magnitude of the bank's risk exposure was hidden by fake trades.

Adoboli remains in custody in London, charged Friday with acts of fraud and false accounting dating back to 2008. His next court appearance is Thursday.

The fact that the fraud took place over three years raises serious questions about the bank's ability to manage its risk. UBS said it has set up a special committee chaired by David Sidwell, the bank's senior independent director, to investigate the incident.

Speaking for the first time since UBS revealed the loss, Gruebel told the Swiss weekly Der Sonntag that the loss couldn't have been prevented.

"If someone acts with criminal energy, then you can't do anything. That will always be the case in our business," the former trader said in the interview published Sunday.

But some Swiss politicians and commentators have called for Gruebel's head to roll over the loss, which is likely to put UBS's third-quarter results deep in the red. Such a move would signal defeat for the gravel-voiced German, who was brought in more than two years ago to revive the bank's fortunes after a series of missteps that included vast losses in the U.S. subprime mortgage market and an embarrassing U.S. tax evasion case.

Gruebel told Der Sonntag that he has no intentions of resigning.

"I'm responsible for everything that happens at the bank," Gruebel told the paper. "But if you ask me whether I feel guilty, then I would say no."

Gruebel pledged to stamp out risky business practices at UBS when he came out of retirement in early 2009 to take the helm of Switzerland's biggest bank. UBS had just suffered its biggest losses ever due to mistakes by the very investment unit that is now making headlines again, and had to take a $60 billion bailout from the Swiss government to stay afloat.

Nation

Plane in NV crash had 'radical' changes to compete

RENO, Nev. (AP)—The World War II-era plane that plummeted into an air-race crowd like a missile bore little resemblance to its original self. It was rebuilt for speed, if not for stability.

The 65-year-old "Galloping Ghost" underwent years of massive overhauls that took a full 10 feet off its wingspan. The ailerons—the back edges of the main wings used to control balance—were cut from about 60 inches to 32.

Pilot Jimmy Leeward had said the changes made the P-51 Mustang faster and more maneuverable, but in the months before Friday's crash even he wasn't certain exactly how it would perform.

"I know it'll do the speed," he said in a podcast uploaded to YouTube in June. "The systems aren't proven yet. We think they're going to be OK."

Investigators don't yet know what caused the plane to pitch sharply into the crowd at the National Championship Air Races in Reno, killing nine people, including Leeward, and injuring dozens. They have focused on the "elevator trim tab"—a piece of the tail that helps the aircraft maintain lift and appeared to break off before the crash.

AP

In this Friday, Sept. 16, 2011 photo, a P-51 Mustang airplane approaches the ground right before crashing during an air show in Reno, Nev.

In the highly competitive, bravado-filled world of air racing, pilots go for broke on the ground and in the sky, hitting speeds of 500 mph. Leeward is the 20th pilot to die at the air races since they began 47 years ago, but Friday's crash was the first in which spectators were killed.

"Pilots are a special breed of confident, intelligent, driven perfectionists," said Ken Quick, a commercial airline pilot and a crew member for one of the teams that raced Friday. "They know what they do is dangerous and demanding, and they eagerly embrace both."

Leeward's own website alludes to the dangers—and bragging rights.

"These guys are always on the edge knowing one wrong move, in one split second, could mean the end," the Leeward Air Ranch Racing Team website says. "NASCAR at 200 mph? Indy at 230 mph? Top Fuel at 300 mph? Mere Childs play. Welcome to the Big League."

Leeward had said the plane underwent several years of modifications before Friday's race, including lopping five feet off each wing, but he hadn't revealed many of the specifics. In the podcast, he called some of the changes "extremely radical," compared some to systems on the space shuttle and explained that he had increased the plane's speed capabilities to be more like those of a modern fighter jet.

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SOURCE: ESRI, TeleAtlas, USGS
Graphic: Robert Dorrell

"To control the airplane in the wind, and in different circumstances if anything happens, you need those types of speeds. You need jet speeds," he said.

Leeward was rounding a bend at dizzying speeds Friday when his plane took an oddly upward pitch, narrowly missing the packed grandstand. It then twirled just a few hundred feet off the ground and nose-dived into a section of VIP box seats, blasting out a 3-foot-deep, 8-foot-wide crater in a hail of metal, chairs and body parts.

Noah Joraanstad was blown off his feet as he tried to run away. Shrapnel hit his back, and he was covered in aviation fuel that burned his skin as spectators tried to wash it off.

From his bed Sunday at Northern Nevada Medical Center, where nine stitches were put in his head, Joraanstad said that when he looked back at the wreck, the plane was just gone.

"The biggest pieces I could see, it looked like just someone sprinkled Legos in every direction," said the 25-year-old, a commercial pilot from Alaska.

Officials said 69 people were treated at hospitals, including 36 who have been released. Nine remained in critical condition Sunday. Only two of the spectators killed had been identified by Sunday afternoon: Michael Wogan, 22, of Scottsdale, Ariz., and Greg Morcom of Washington state.

Memory cards that may have come from the plane were found at the scene. The Galloping Ghost had a camera that faced outward, and the NTSB said the cards will be analyzed to see if there is any video.

FAA spokesman Ian Gregor said officials thoroughly vet all aircraft modifications before the planes are allowed to race. Reno Air Race Association technical experts also examine them to ensure they are air-worthy.

National Transportation Safety Board spokesman Terry Williams said his agency would look into the oversight of modifications to Leeward's plane as part of its investigation.

Child abuse rose during recession, research says

CHICAGO (AP)—An increase in child abuse, mostly in infants, is linked with the recent recession in new research that raises fresh concerns about the impact of the nation's economic woes.

The results are in a study of 422 abused children from mostly lower-income families, known to face greater risks for being abused, and the research involved just 74 counties in four states. But lead author Dr. Rachel Berger of Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh said the results confirm anecdotal reports from many pediatricians who've seen increasing numbers of shaken baby cases and other forms of brain-injuring abuse.

Berger decided to study this type of injury, known as abusive head trauma, after noticing an increase at her own hospital from late 2007 through June 2009. Her hospital averaged 30 cases per year during those recession years versus 17 yearly before 2007.

Though this abuse is still uncommon, the number of cases in the counties studied increased sharply, rising from about 9 cases per 100,000 children in pre-recession years, to almost 15 per 100,000 kids during the recession—a 65 percent increase.

By contrast, juvenile diabetes—a better-known condition—affects about 19 per 100,000 children younger than age 10.

Children studied were younger than 5, and most were infants. Most suffered brain damage and 69 died, though the death rate didn't rise during the recession.

Unemployment rates in the 74 counties rose during the five-year study. The proportion of children on Medicaid in those counties also increased, from 77 percent before the recession to 83 percent. However, insurance and family employment information were not reported for the abused children in the study.

Combine the stress of raising a young child with wage cuts or lost jobs and you get "a sort of toxic brew in terms of thinking about possible physical violence," said Mark Rank, a social welfare professor at Washington University in St. Louis. He said the study echoes sociological research linking violence with declines in economic well-being.

Along with U.S. Census data released last week indicating that a record 46 million Americans are poor, the study shows that "as poverty goes up and economic stagnation continues...there are really human costs involved," Rank said.

The study was released online Monday in Pediatrics.

The counties studied included Pittsburgh and western Pennsylvania; central and southern Ohio; and a handful of counties in northern Kentucky and in the Seattle area.

Repeal of gay ban welcomed by civilian partners

NEW YORK (AP)—After 19 years hiding her relationship with an active-duty Army captain, Cathy Cooper is getting ready to exhale. On Tuesday, the policy known as "don't ask, don't tell" will expire. And Cooper will dare speak her love's name in public.

"This is life-changing," said Cooper, choking up. "I just want to be able to breathe—knowing I can call my partner at work and have a conversation without it having to be in code."

Much has been reported about the burdens that "don't ask" placed on gay and lesbian service members who risked discharge under the 1993 policy if their sexual orientation became known in the ranks. There's been less attention focused on their civilian partners, who faced distinctive, often relentless stresses of their own.

In interviews with The Associated Press, five partners recalled past challenges trying to conceal their love affairs, spoke of the joy and relief accompanying repeal, and wondered about the extent that they would be welcomed into the broader military family in the future.

Even with repeal imminent, the partners—long accustomed to secrecy—did not want to reveal the full identity of their active-duty loved ones before Tuesday.

Cooper, who works for a large private company, moved from the Midwest to northern Virginia to be near her partner's current Army post, yet couldn't fully explain to friends and colleagues why she moved. "It's been really difficult—it's really isolated us," she said. "I became much more introverted, more evasive."

Cooper said her partner's Army career is thriving, though she's had to hide a major component of her personal life.

"I don't know any of her coworkers," Cooper said. "She says, `You're the best part of me and I have to pretend you don't exist.'"

Looking ahead, Cooper is unsure how same-sex partners will be welcomed by the military establishment.

"Will it be, `Hey, come join all the family support programs'?" she wondered. "I'm not going to be so naive as to think that ... I'm just hoping the door is open."

During the long, arduous campaign to repeal "don't ask, don't tell," activists and advocacy groups tended to downplay issues related to post-repeal benefits for civilian partners. "It's not something we've been pushing very hard for yet, but it's obviously going to be the next front in the ongoing battle for equality," said Alex Nicholson, executive director of Servicemembers United.

ACROSS THE NATION

Police: 3 men shot to death in KC apartment

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP)—Police say three men have been shot to death in an apartment building in Kansas City. Five people have been taken into custody for questioning. Kansas City Police Officer Darin Snapp tells the Kansas City Star (http://bit.ly/p9xtt6) that it was a "very violent encounter" that he describes as "almost execution-style." Snapp says police got a call around 7:15 p.m. CDT from a resident in the building who reported hearing gunshots. When officers arrived, the apartment door was open and there were no signs of a break-in. Snapp says the attackers may have been let into the apartment.

Churchgoer talks of chaotic scene tackling gunman

LAKELAND, Fla. (AP)—A church parishioner says he helped tackle a man who shot two Florida pastors and was able to wrestle the gun away from the suspect. Derrick Foster tells The Associated Press he was kneeling in prayer Sunday when the gunman, identified by police as Jeremiah Fogle, entered the church. Foster says he heard one shot and then screaming. When he looked up, Fogle turned around pointed the gun at the rest of the church.

Police: 5 bikers found dead in RV at Tenn. event

CLARKSVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—Five bikers were found dead Sunday in a recreational vehicle at a Tennessee speedway and an organizer for the motorcycle festival blamed the deaths on fumes from a generator. Three men and two women were found in the RV at the Clarksville Speedway about noon and there was no sign of foul play, Clarksville police spokesman Jim Knoll said. Bill Langford, the director of the event Bikers Who Care, said he headed to the scene on a four-wheeler when an ambulance and a fire truck arrived.

Asia

Strong earthquake hits India, Nepal; 16 dead

GAUHATI, India (AP)—A strong earthquake shook northeastern India and Nepal on Sunday night, killing at least 16 people, damaging buildings and sending lawmakers in Nepal's capital running into the streets.

The quake, with a preliminary magnitude of 6.9, struck at 6:10 p.m. local time and was felt across northern and eastern India, including in the capital of New Delhi. It triggered at least two aftershocks of magnitude 6.1 and 5.3, Indian seismology official R.S. Dattatreyan said. He warned more aftershocks were possible.

At least five people in India's Sikkim state were killed and more than 50 were injured, according to the state's top official, Chief Secretary Karma Gyatso. The north Indian state of West Bengal reported four deaths, and Bihar state reported two. Nepal's government said five people died and dozens were hurt there, including two men and a child who were killed when a brick wall toppled outside the British Embassy in Nepal's capital, Katmandu.

The full extent of damage was not immediately known because the region is sparsely populated with many people living in remote areas now cut off by mudslides triggered by the quake, state police Chief Jasbir Singh told The Associated Press.

TV stations reported buildings buckled, sidewalks cracked and two major roads collapsed in Sikkim's state capital of Gangtok, 42 miles (68 kilometers) southeast of the quake's epicenter near the border with Nepal. The Indo-Tibetan Border Police said two of its buildings had collapsed in Gangtok.

Small army columns fanned out across the city of some 50,000 overnight to search for anyone pinned under fallen debris.

"We have sounded a high alert. Police are on the streets in Gangtok and other major towns," he said.

Electricity and some phone service was interrupted in the area.

Power lines snapped in the West Bengal cities of Darjeeling and Kalimpong, which "are now in total darkness," state Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee said, according to Press Trust of India.

Prime Minister Manmohan Singh offered to send troops to help, and summoned the National Disaster Management Authority for an emergency meeting. The air force sent five planes to help with rescue efforts.

The region has been hit by major earthquakes in the past, including in 1950 and 1897.

In neighboring Nepal and Bangladesh, the quake Sunday night sent residents rushing out of their homes, offices and shopping centers.

In Katmandu, members of parliament who were debating the national budget ran out of the assembly hall into a parking area. They returned 15 minutes later and resumed their session.

The quake was also felt as far as the Indian capital, with New Delhi residents also rushing out of shaking buildings.

AP

A British embassy staff member talks on the phone after the Embassy's compound wall collapsed reportedly killing three pedestrians following an earthquake in Katmandu, Nepal, Sunday, Sept. 18, 2011.

ASIAN BRIEFS

PH braces for planned transport strike

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—Philippine officials will deploy hundreds of police officers to ensure order during a planned transport strike over oil price hikes that will take place mainly in the capital. Metropolitan Manila administrator Francis Tolentino says three major groups have backed out of the planned one-day work stoppage by passenger jeep drivers Monday, but hundreds of police will be deployed to prevent violence and keep traffic flowing. Tolentino says close to 300 government vehicles, including army trucks, will be deployed in case commuters need to be ferried. Detention buses will be on hand for possible troublemakers.

Group: Wild cattle species endangered in Cambodia

BANGKOK (AP)—The world's largest population of banteng, a type of cattle native to Southeast Asia, is at risk from hunters and agricultural concessions granted inside protected areas of Cambodia, a conservation group said Monday. Numbers of banteng, graceful wild cattle that once roamed in vast herds, in Cambodia have plummeted by 90 percent since the 1960s and the species is listed as globally endangered by the International Union for Conservation of Nature, which monitors wildlife populations.

China landslide buries small factories, killing 10

BEIJING (AP)—Official media say a landslide caused by heavy rain plowed into two small factories in northwestern China, killing at least 10 people and leaving 22 others missing. The Xinhua News Agency says the landslide engulfed a brick factory and destroyed part of a ceramics factory in a suburb of Xi'an, the capital of Shaanxi province. It says the landslide hit Saturday and sent large amounts of rock and mud tumbling down a mountain. Heavy rains led to three more landslides on Sunday.

Taiwan opposition chief open to China unification

TAIPEI, Taiwan (AP)—Taiwan's main opposition presidential candidate has said she is open to the island's unification with China, providing the issue wins popular support.

Even with the condition, Tsai Ing-wen's comments represents a radical departure for her traditionally pro-independence Democratic Progressive Party.

Unlike the ruling Nationalist Party of President Ma Ying-jeou, which has pushed for closer relations between the island and the mainland for more than ten years, the DPP has emphasized the importance of maintaining Taiwan's de facto independence and its identity as a sovereign state.

But Tsai appeared to veer away from that stance during remarks made at a press briefing in New York on Friday. Her remarks were reported in Taiwanese newspapers Sunday and confirmed by a party spokesman.

"I've said I do not exclude any possibility," Tsai was quoted as saying when asked whether she is open to unification with China. "As long as there is public support, Taiwan and China's future relations can remain open (to any possibility)."

Tsai's condition appears to be a difficult one to fulfill, at least for now. Taiwanese public opinion polls consistently show that only a small minority of the island's 23 million people support unification with China.

Tsai was speaking in the immediate wake of controversial remarks attributed to an unnamed senior American official cited by the Financial Times newspaper. The newspaper reported the official as criticizing Tsai's China policy as jeopardizing stability in the region.

Since taking office in May 2008, Ma, Tsai's opponent in the January presidential elections, has decreased tensions across the 100-mile (160-kilometer)-wide Taiwan Strait to their lowest level since the two sides split amid civil war in 1949.

Despite the improvement of relations, China has not renounced possible use of force to press its claim that Taiwan is part of its territory and needs to be returned to its fold.

Amid criticism that the anonymous U.S. official's reported comments constituted American interference in democratic Taiwan's electoral process, a State Department spokesman emphasized that the U.S. remains neutral in the Taiwanese presidential poll.

Japanese girl delighted by bottle found in Hawaii

TOKYO (AP)—A Japanese teenager expressed her gratitude Sunday after a U.S. sailor in Hawaii found a bottle she had tossed into the sea off Japan's southern coast as a child, and said she was delighted to be reconnected with her old classmates as a result.

Saki Arikawa, 17, said she had almost forgotten about the bottle and initially couldn't believe it was found after five years.

In a telephone interview with The Associated Press from her hometown in Kagoshima, she said "it's a miracle" the bottle was found. "It's incredible," she said.

The clear glass bottle was found Thursday by Navy Petty Officer Jon Moore during a beach cleanup at the Pacific Missile Range Facility on Kauai island.

The bottle contained four origami cranes—symbols of peace in Japan—as well as a photo of Arikawa's elementary school class and a note dated March 25, 2006, and signed by Arikawa saying she wanted it to be "a graduation memory."

News of the bottle's recovery reconnected more than a dozen of her old classmates, now studying at different high schools, and their elementary school homeroom teacher for a reunion Saturday. Arikawa says she now wants to further expand the circle of friendship.

"Thanks to the bottle, some of us could get together and had a great time," she said. "Now I'd like to meet the person who kindly saved my bottle."

The bottle was one of five she tossed into the ocean in 2006 as her sixth-grade class graduated from Kokubu Elementary School in Kagoshima. She and her 31 classmates dropped five bottles each, including the one that turned up last week.

Three other bottles had previously been recovered, including two in Alaska and a third at another location in Hawaii.

The Navy said Moore was among 40 base personnel and 16 students and faculty from a Kauai school who picked up beach trash in observance of International Coastal Cleanup Day.

AP

In this image provided by the U.S. Navy electrician's Mate 2nd Class Jon Moore removes a message from a bottle sent from Kagoshima, Japan more than five years ago.

World

Yemeni forces open fire on protesters, 26 killed

SANAA, Yemen (AP)—Yemeni government forces opened fire with anti-aircraft guns and automatic weapons on tens of thousands of anti-government protesters in the capital demanding ouster of their longtime ruler, killing at least 26 and wounding dozens, medical officials and witnesses said.

After nightfall, Sanaa sank into complete darkness after a sudden power outage, as protesters took control of a vital bridge, halting traffic and setting up tents. Thousands of other protesters attacked government buildings and set fires to buildings they said were used by snipers and pro-government thugs.

The attack was the deadliest in months against protesters and comes as tensions have been escalating in the long, drawn-out stalemate between the regime and the opposition. The president, Ali Abdullah Saleh, left for Saudi Arabia for treatment after being severely wounded in a June 3 attack on his palace, raising hopes for his swift removal—but instead, he has dug in, refusing to step down.

AP

An anti-government protester holds out his blood-stained hands after clashes with security forces, in Sanaa, Yemen, Sunday, Sept. 18, 2011.

The protest movement has stepped up demonstrations the past week, angered after Saleh deputized Vice President Abed Rabbo Mansour Hadi to negotiate a power-transfer deal. Many believe the move is just the latest of many delaying tactics.

At the same time, greater numbers of the powerful Republican Guards force, led by Saleh's son and heir apparent Ahmed and armed regime supporters have also been turning out in the streets in recent days, raising fears of a new bloody confrontation.

More than 100,000 protesters massed Sunday around the state radio building and government offices, witnesses said. When the crowd began to march toward the nearby Presidential Palace, security forces opened fire and shot tear gas canisters, they said. Snipers fired down at the crowd from nearby rooftops, and plainclothes Saleh supporters armed with automatic rifles, swords and batons attacked the protesters. Protesters took control of a main bridge, closed off the entrances and set fire to tents in a camp used by pro-government forces.

"This peaceful protest was confronted by heavy weapons and anti-aircraft guns," said Mohammed al-Sabri, an opposition spokesman. He vowed that the intensifying protests "will not stop and will not retreat."

At the neighborhood of al-Zubairi in the heart of Sanaa, troops opened fire at an anti-government force, the 1st Armored Division led by Maj. Gen. Ali al-Ahmar, who defected to the opposition along with his 50,000 troops several months ago.

Witnesses said al-Ahmar's forces engaged in the fighting Sunday for the first time, but Abdel-Ghani al-Shemari, spokesman for al-Ahmar division denied that and said they are "maintaining self-restraint."

Tarek Noaman, a doctor at Sanaa field hospital, said that 26 protesters were shot dead and more than 200 were wounded. "Most of the injuries are at the chest, shoulder, head and face," he said, and said 25 of injured protesters were in critical condition.

He accused security forces of preventing ambulances from evacuating the wounded and collecting bodies of the slain protesters.

A Yemeni opposition television network carried live video of men carrying injured protesters on stretchers, including a motionless man whose face was covered with blood and eyes wrapped with bandages. Other young men were lying on the floor in the chaotic field hospital. Men on motorcycles rushed the injured from the square to field hospital.

Protesters throwing stones managed to break through security force lines and advance to near the Yemeni Republican Palace at the heart of Sanaa, turning the clashes with the security forces into street battles.

The Youth Revolution committee, which leads the protests, called on Yemenis to rally "day and night and everywhere in Yemen until we topple the remnants of the regime."

The Yemeni state news agency Saba quoted a security official as saying that the Muslim Brotherhood rallied "unlicensed protests" near the university of Sanaa, and "the militia threw firebombs at a power station, setting it on fire."

Though Saleh has been in Saudi Arabia since June, he has resisted calls to resign. Last week he deputized his vice president to discuss a Gulf-mediated, U.S.-backed deal under which he would step down in return for immunity from prosecution. Saleh has already backed away three times from signing the deal.

High-stakes diplomacy over Palestinian UN bid

NEW YORK (AP)—The United States and Europe raced Sunday to avert or delay a looming United Nations showdown over Palestinian statehood that could crush already dim Mideast peace prospects, with Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton and the European Union's top diplomat meeting in an attempt to come up with a winning strategy.

Clinton and EU foreign policy chief Catherine Ashton discussed the situation in New York as part of an increasingly desperate effort to bring Israel and the Palestinians back to negotiations without antagonizing either side or embroiling the region in new turmoil.

But with each side locked in intractable positions over the expected Palestinian bid this week for U.N. recognition, chances for a breakthrough seemed slim. Officials said the effort may be more about damage control than diplomacy.

"We are meeting to talk about the way forward," Clinton said as she shook hands with Ashton in a New York hotel. She declined to say if mediators were making progress.

The Palestinians are frustrated by their inability to win from Israel concessions such as a freeze on settlements in the West Bank and east Jerusalem. They want to seize the moment to try to gain greater standing and attention with a high stakes wager on statehood and U.N. membership. The U.S. and Israel vehemently opposed this move.

Only 12 months ago, President Barack Obama said he wanted the U.N. to be welcoming Palestine as its newest member this year. But talks long have broken down, and the U.S. is in the unenviable position of leading the opposition to something it actually supports.

The U.S. has promised a veto of the Palestinian bid at the Security Council, leading to fears the action could spark violence in the region.

The American side was working to secure additional opposition to recognition, officials said. Without nine affirmative votes in the 15-member Council, the Palestinian resolution would fail and Washington is hoping it won't have to act alone.

U.S. officials believe that six other members may vote against or abstain, meaning the Palestinians would fall short. That tally could not be immediately confirmed.

Heading off or watering down the Palestinian resolution had been the goal of international diplomats. They hoped to parlay that success into a meeting between the Israeli and Palestinian leaders where the two sides would relaunch negotiations.

Yet the Palestinians have refused to back down and give up the little leverage they hope to win.

Frustration, zeal mix in siege of Gadhafi bastion

WADI DINAR, Libya (AP)—The rockets and mortars rained down on the position where the revolutionaries had retreated on the outskirts of the mountainous stronghold of Moammar Gadhafi's loyalists. So, in a fury, the fighters charged wild and unorganized Sunday back into the city for yet another day of fighting.

Fighters for Libya's new rulers have been throwing themselves into the battle to take Bani Walid for days with no progress against the old regime loyalists, strongly fortified and bristling with heavy weaponry. The frustration is showing among the amateur revolutionary fighters.

"We expected this kind of resistance from Gadhafi forces, but I thought we could take them on," said Mohannad Bendalla, a doctor treating wounded fighters at a field hospital set up outside of the city.

The official, trained military of the National Transitional Council, Libya's interim government, has pulled away from Bani Walid to regroup and reinforce for a new assault after they were heavily beaten in the city Friday. That has left ragtag, undisciplined volunteers at the front line. Most are youths from the most die-hard revolutionary neighborhoods of Tripoli, like Souq al-Jomaa or Tajoura, strong on zeal to kill some Gadhafi supporters and weak on training on how to do so. The amateur Tripoli fighters get lost in the neighborhoods rolling up and down Bani Walid's confusing mountain ravines. Behind the front lines, frustrated fighters turn blame on the Bani Walid Brigade, units of city residents who are fighting alongside them but whose loyalties some of them suspect.

The new leadership is facing a tough fight uprooting the remnants of Gadhafi's regime nearly four weeks after the then-rebels rolled into Tripoli on Aug. 21 and ousted the now fugitive leader. Bani Walid, southeast of the capital, is just one holdout. Fighting is also raging at Sirte, Gadhafi's hometown on the Mediterranean coast. The regime stronghold of Sabha lies hundreds of miles away in the southern deserts, and there are others deep in the central deserts like the cities of Houn and Zallah.

The battle at Sirte, launched Friday, has also been fierce, but there the revolutionaries have been more organized and have made slow progress.

Most of the fighters besieging Sirte are from Misrata, a city further northwest along the coast that survived a brutal weeks-long siege by Gadhafi forces during the civil war. That conflict left them battle-hardened and savvy on the tactics of urban fighting. Regular truckloads of fuel and food arrive from Misrata to keep the fighters supplied outside Sirte.

WORLD BRIEFS

Berlusconi's top aide: premier won't quit

ROME (AP)—Italian Premier Silvio Berlusconi won't quit despite a sex scandal, his top aide said Sunday. Angelino Alfano, who has been tapped by Berlusconi as his political heir, told a rally in northern Italy their conservative party still supports him. He added "the premier has no desire to resign." Berlusconi insists he will stay until elections in spring 2013. But the ally keeping him in power, Northern League leader Umberto Bossi, has called that date "too far" away. Bossi's No. 2, Roberto Maroni, told a separate political rally Sunday that League will stay in the government "as long as Bossi says so."

UK surgeons separate twin girls joined at head

LONDON (AP)—Sudanese twins born with the tops of their heads joined together have been separated in a rare and risky series of operations at a London children's hospital, officials said Sunday. Facing the World, a charity which helps disfigured children, said it had helped fund the four-stage operation on 11-month-olds Rital and Ritag Gaboura. Twins born joined at the head are known as craniopagus twins and they occur in about one in 2.5 million births. Separating them can be dangerous, especially if—as in this case—there's significant blood flow between their brains.

US religious envoys urge Iran to free 2 Americans

TEHRAN, Iran (AP)—A group of U.S. Christian and Muslim envoys is returning from Tehran after holding talks with Iran's president over the possible release of two Americans jailed as spies. A statement by the interfaith delegation Monday says they urged Mahmoud Ahmadinejad and other officials to release Shane Bauer and Josh Fattal on humanitarian grounds. Iran's courts have considered a $1 million bail-for-freedom deal that also could set aside their eight-year prison sentences. But the hard-line judiciary has not given any timetable for a possible release.

Focus

Behind the poverty numbers: Real lives, real pain

By DAVID CRARY
AP NATIONAL WRITER

At a food pantry in a Chicago suburb, a 38-year-old mother of two breaks into tears.

She and her husband have been out of work for nearly two years. Their house and car are gone. So is their foothold in the middle class and, at times, their self-esteem.

"It's like there is no way out," says Kris Fallon.

She is trapped like so many others, destitute in the midst of America's abundance. Last week, the Census Bureau released new figures showing that nearly one in six Americans lives in poverty—a record 46.2 million people. The poverty rate, pegged at 15.1 percent, is the highest of any major industrialized nation, and many experts believe it could get worse before it abates.

The numbers are daunting—but they also can seem abstract and numbing without names and faces.

Associated Press reporters around the country went looking for the people behind the numbers. They were not hard to find.

There's Tim Cordova, laid off from his job as a manager at a McDonald's in New Mexico, and now living with his wife at a homeless shelter after a stretch where they slept in their Ford Focus.

There's Bill Ricker, a 74-year-old former repairman and pastor whose home is a dilapidated trailer in rural Maine. He scrapes by with a monthly $1,003 Social Security check. His ex-wife also is hard up; he lets her live in the other end of his trailer.

There's Brandi Wells, a single mom in West Virginia, struggling to find a job and care for her 10-month-old son. "I didn't realize that it could go so bad so fast," she says.

Some were outraged by the statistics. Marian Wright Edelman of the Children's Defense Fund called the surging child poverty rate "a national disgrace." Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., cited evidence that poverty shortens life spans, calling it "a death sentence for tens and tens of thousands of our people."

Overall, though, the figures seemed to be greeted with resignation, and political leaders in Washington pressed ahead with efforts to cut federal spending. The Pew Research Center said its recent polling shows that a majority of Americans—for the first time in 15 years of being surveyed on the question—oppose more government spending to help the poor.

"The news of rising poverty makes headlines one day. And the next it is forgotten," said Los Angeles community activist and political commentator Earl Ofari Hutchinson.

Such is life in the Illinois town of Pembroke, one of the poorest in the Midwest, where schools and stores have closed. Keith Bobo, a resident trying to launch revitalization programs, likened conditions to the Third World.

"A lot of the people here just feel like they are on an island, like no one even knows that they exist," he said.

Struggling on $18,000 a year

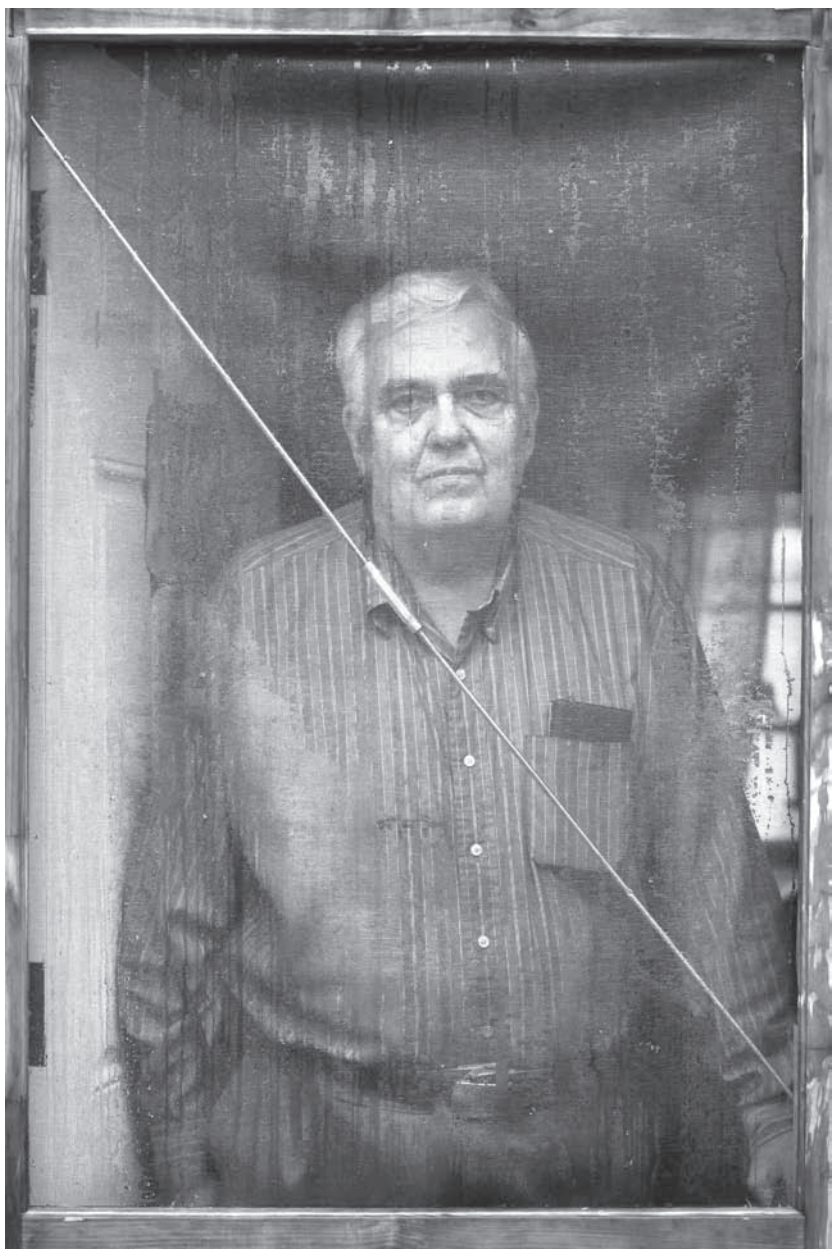
It's hard to find some of the poorest residents in Pembroke. They live in places like the tree-shaded gravel road where the Bargy family's dust-smudged trailer is wedged in the soil, flanked by overgrown grass.

By the official numbers, Pembroke's 3,000 residents are among the poorest in the region, but the problem may be worse. The mayor believes as many as 2,000 people were uncounted, living far off the paths that census workers trod.

The staples that make up the town square are gone: No post office, no supermarket, no pharmacy, no barber shop or gas station. School doors are shuttered. The police officers were all laid off, a meat processing plant closed. In many places, light switches don't work, and water faucets run dry. Residents let their garbage smolder on their lawn because there's no truck to take it away; many homes are burned out.

Ken Bargy, 58, had to stop working five years ago because of his health and is now on disability. His wife drives a school bus in a neighboring town. He sends his children, 15 and 10, to school 20 miles away. In the back of the trailer, he offers shelter to his elderly mother, who is bedridden and dying of cancer.

The $18,000 the family pieces together from disability payments and paychecks must go to many things: food, lights, water, medical bills. There are choices to make.



AP

In this Sept. 15, 2011 photo, Bill Ricker, 74, looks out the screen door of his trailer home on a rainy day in Hartford, Maine.

"With the cost of everything going up, I have to skip a light bill to get food or skip a phone bill to get food," he says. "My checking account is about 20 bucks in the hole."

About 75 miles away, in the Chicago suburb of Hoffman Estates, dozens of families lined up patiently outside the Willow Creek Care Center as truckloads of food for the poor were unloaded.

Among those waiting was Kris Fallon of nearby Palatine, mother of a teen and an infant, who hitched a ride with a friend.

She recounted how she and her husband—once earning nearly $100,000 a year between the two of them—lost their jobs, forcing them to move from their rented home into an apartment and give up their car.

"We fight a lot because of the situation," she said. "We wonder where we are going to come up with money to pay rent, where we are going to get food, formula for the baby."

She began to cry.

"I never understood why there were so many food pantries and why people couldn't just get on their feet and get going, but now that I'm in it, I fully understand," she said. "I sometimes feel like I am a loser ... I have never been unemployed and I never thought I would be going through this, ever."

Her husband, Jim, 43, said he's looked for jobs all over the country in the past two years, and just accepted an offer of a three-month stint in Paducah, Ky., on a hotel reconstruction project.

"Leaving for a job out of state for three months is what I have to do," he said. "It's terrible but it's our reality ... I guess this is the new America." ***(Robert Ray)***

Sharing poverty with a former spouse

Bill Ricker's woes date back to the 1980s, when he injured himself falling through rotten floorboards while doing carpentry at an inn. He hasn't worked since.

He now lives in one end of a cluttered old trailer in Hartford, Maine, 60 miles north of Portland.

It wasn't supposed to be this way. Ricker has two college degrees. As a younger man he worked as an electronics repairman, a pastor and a TV cameraman. He and his first wife had seven children.

Now he receives food stamps, gets donations from a local food pantry and drives an 18-year-old car with 198,000 miles.

For a treat, he goes out to lunch at a cafe in a nearby town—about once every two months.

"I don't drink, I don't smoke, I don't chew and I don't go with girls that do," Ricker said. "In other words, on that income you don't do very much outside the home."

After finishing high school in 1956, Ricker earned an associate degree in electronics engineering and went to work selling and repairing marine electronics.

He later earned a theology

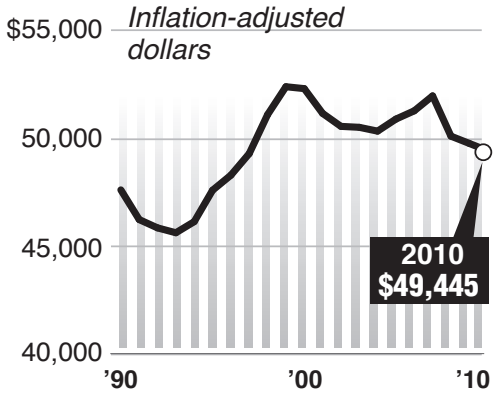
Continued on Next Page

Snapshot of U.S. economic well-being

Poverty continued to increase last year, even though the recession officially ended in June 2009.

Median income dropped

A decline of 6.4 percent since 2001 in median household income



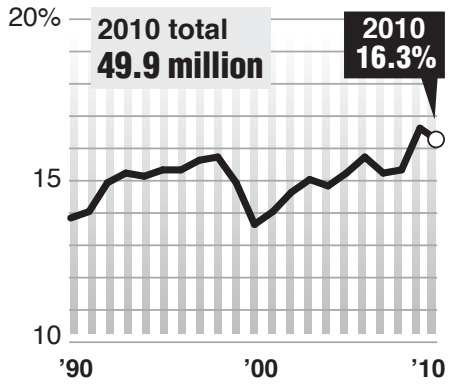
How racial/ethnic groups rank

Asian	$64,308
White, non-Hispanic	$54,620
Hispanic*	$37,759
African-American	$32,068

Source: U.S. Census Bureau

More lacked health insurance

In 2010, 1.5 million dropped from employer-sponsored plans

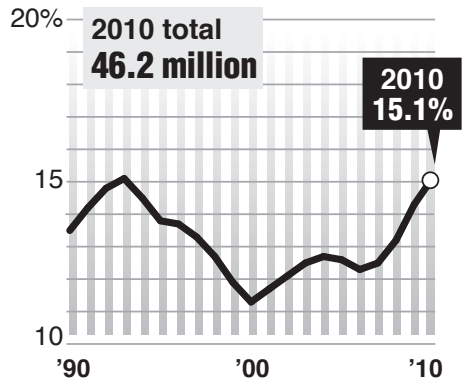


Hispanic*	30.7%
African-American	20.8%
Asian	18.1%
White, non-Hispanic	11.7%

*Hispanics can be any race

Poverty rate highest since 1983

Number of poor Americans is the highest since 1959



African-American	27.4%
Hispanic*	26.6%
Asian	12.1%
White, non-Hispanic	9.9%

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From Page 17

degree and served as a pastor at churches in New Hampshire and Vermont. But times were hard on a pastor's salary, so he returned to Maine, eventually becoming a cameraman and studio engineer for a TV station.

After being laid off in the 1980s, he was hired to do some carpentry for an inn. His first day on the job, the floorboards gave way.

With his injuries, he could no longer tend to the three-unit apartment house he and his wife owned. They sold it, bought a used trailer for $7,000 and settled on a lot in Hartford, a town of about 1,000 people.

Ricker and his second wife, Judith Odyssey, divorced around 1995 and she moved out. But he offered to let her move back in nine years ago when she was going through a rough time, and she now lives in the other end of the trailer. She gets $674 a month in Social Security.

Besides his back and shoulder injuries, Ricker has diabetes, eye and breathing problems, and his hands shake. Odyssey has congestive heart problems, asthma and arthritis.

It's hard to make ends meet. Rent for the lot is $150 a month; Ricker has to buy insurance and gas for his minivan and pay bills for electricity and a phone.

He shops at a discount grocery store, gets canned goods from a food pantry, scours garage sales for clothes.

It cost $3,200 last winter to heat the poorly insulated trailer with kerosene, which was partially offset with about $1,000 in heating assistance funds.

Inside the trailer, ceiling tiles are coming loose and electrical wires dangle in the bathroom where a light fixture once hung. An old dryer, a mattress, a snow blower, discarded chairs and other junk are strewn about outside.

Still, Ricker keeps his sense of humor.

"I'm sorry I make jokes at everything," Ricker said. "But it's the only way to keep going." ***(Clarke Canfield)***

Broke—and facing the unexpected

AP

In this Sept. 14, 2011 photo, Brandi Wells holds her 10-month-old son Logan Tanner Wells in her new and virtually empty apartment in Kingwood, W.Va.

Until a few months ago, Brandi Wells lived paycheck to paycheck. She was poor, but she got by. Now, the 22-year-old lives "penny to penny."

Wells started working as a waitress at 17 and continued when she got pregnant last year. She worked until the day she delivered 10-month-old son Logan, she says, and came back a week later. But finding child care was a challenge, and about three months ago, after one too many missed shifts, she was fired.

In no time, she was homeless. The subsidized apartment in Kingwood, W.Va., that had cost her only $36 a month came with a catch: She had to have a job. Without one—and with no way to pay her utilities—she was evicted.

Logan went to live with his grandmother in another town while Wells stayed with a friend for three weeks in a filthy house with no running water.

"I didn't realize that it could go so bad so fast," she says now. "I was working. I was trying. I felt like I was doing everything I could. But everyone was saying I needed to do more.

"They say, 'It's your fault. You don't need to live off the government,'" Wells says. "For some people, yes, it is their fault. ...I didn't deserve to lose my job. I worked as hard as I could."

Wells filed for assistance from the state human resource department and got three free nights at a low-budget motel and $50 for gas to hunt for a new job. It didn't last long.

"The way it is now, you can't hardly find a job," she says. "I've applied here, there, everywhere."

Eventually, Wells and her fiance, Thomas McDaniel, found a two-bedroom apartment. After a few weeks, its walls and floors remain bare. The only furniture is in the living room—an old green sofa, a foam twin mattress, a playpen stuffed with toys.

Rent is $400 a month, and Wells is hoping that since McDaniel has just landed a job at Subway, they'll be able to afford it.

For now, her income consists of the $300 a month the state pays her to attend a daily self-sufficiency class, the $30 or so she earns at a bar once or twice a week, food stamps, and the $96 a month in child support she gets from Logan's father—"barely enough for diapers and wipes."

She gets help from the Raymond Wolfe Center, where she can pick up a week's worth of food once a month. And she's grateful for her class, which is teaching her how to manage her money and distinguish wants from needs.

She knew the difference before, she says. As a new mom, she just didn't care.

"I was in the stage where I wanted to give Logan everything ... and I couldn't afford it," she says. "And it caused me to be broke."

Wells says she's motivated to get back on track: "I want to get out of these low-income apartments. I want an actual house for my son. I want a car that's not on the verge of breaking down."

She's hoping her typing skills will lead to a secretarial job. Long term, she wants to go to college and eventually work as a mortician.

"It's a job you can't lose, she says with a grin. "They don't run out of business, generally."

But as if the odds weren't already stacked against her, Wells has two more challenges.

She needs to answer for speeding tickets she couldn't afford to pay. That resulted in a suspended license, further limiting her ability to look for work.

And, unexpectedly, she's pregnant.

"I've never been into the idea of abortion ...," she says, her voice trailing off. "Me and my fiance are talking about it. I don't know what we're going to do." ***(Vicki Smith)***

A growing boy has to eat, but how?

Wearing a navy blue pea coat, her eyelids dusted with shimmery shadow, Pamela Gray looked as though she was headed into work. Instead, she was standing in line at a Manhattan food pantry, where hundreds of people waited patiently to fill suitcases with groceries or meet with a social worker.

Going on a year without a job, Gray likes to rise early and ride the subway down from the Bronx to visit the West Side Campaign Against Hunger, New York's largest food pantry, which is tucked inside a church basement.

"When I was working as a home attendant, I had a check every week. So you know, the food thing wasn't a problem," said Gray, a single mother of three teens who was injured while caring for an elderly woman last year and had to quit her job. "But when you don't work like you used to every day—you don't know that you have the money—you have to go pick up food where you can."

Gray, 47, was meeting with the center's social workers about paying off $12,000 in student loans from Bronx Community College, where she earned a bachelor's degree. Her only source of income for now is occasional money from selling Mary Kay makeup and a couple of paychecks a year when she pulls shifts as an elections worker.

It's been hard on her 14-year-old son, who is growing fast and likes to eat. A lot.

"He likes Chinese food, chicken with broccoli, and then he likes his pizza," she said, laughing. "Yesterday I give him his $3.50 for lunch and tell him next week, you know, see what happens."

Gray made a follow-up appointment with a counselor—promising to bring the necessary paperwork next time—and then headed back onto the street. She walked to another church a few blocks away, where a woman was handing out free coffee and sandwiches.

She put the sandwich in her purse and settled down on the church steps to enjoy her coffee before heading to a public library. That's where she spends most of her time—using the computer, applying for jobs, devouring books.

"I'm reading this one, they talking about sentencing in prison," she said, tapping the cover. "I really like to read on child issues and stuff. But if they don't have it, I get another book."

And she waits for that long-awaited job offer to come through. She is optimistic about the latest one: a position working with children at a juvenile home. After all, she says, she has a certificate in child care from New York University.

"I think I'm gonna get it," she said, a smile spreading across her face. "I've been trying. I don't give up. I keep trying." ***(Meghan Barr)***

'They didn't have to sleep on the floor'

The walls in Monique Brown's public-housing apartment have only a few decorations, sheets cover the windows and the cupboards are mostly empty. But it's a big step up nonetheless.

Until a few weeks ago, the 30-year-old single mom and her four children, ages 2 to 9, were homeless and staying in a Salvation Army shelter in downtown Birmingham, Ala.

Brown was married, living in Florida and working two jobs—one in a hotel laundry, the other at a retail store—when the recession hit. Today, those seem like the good old days.

"I never really had to worry about food and the basic necessities because I knew there was always a paycheck coming in a week," she said.

Brown lost both jobs in 2008 and split with her husband, forcing a move to Alabama to live with her brother and his family. An arrangement that was supposed to last for a couple months stretched to a year because Brown wasn't able to find work, and the strain was soon showing on her brother's household. Fearful for his marriage, Brown and her children took refuge in the shelter.

"It was the best option for us because they could have their own beds, they didn't have to sleep on the floor," she said. "I didn't want them to get the full effect of being homeless."

While her three boys went to elementary school, Brown cared for her 2-year-old daughter and sought work. She wasn't picky, but nothing turned up.

Still jobless, Brown found out about a public housing unit last month in the Birmingham suburb or Fairfield. With the Salvation Army paying her deposits and purchasing furniture and some appliances for her, Brown was able to swing a place of her own using $573 a month in disability payments for one of her sons, food stamps and donations.

Brown has been able to save about $100 and she's still looking for work. But finding a job is difficult because she has to balance potential work schedules against her children's schedules and the high cost of day care.

"Right now I'm just taking small steps," she said. ***(Jay Reeves)***

There but for the grace of God...

Nearly two years ago, on the day after a vacation, Tim Cordova was laid off from his job as a manager at a McDonald's. At the time, he and his wife, Sandra, an employee at a Subway restaurant, lived in a two-story house in the Albuquerque suburb of Ventana Ranch.

As the economy worsened in New Mexico, one of the nation's poorest states, Cordova struggled to find work and his wife's hours were slashed until she, too, was laid off.

They moved to a smaller house, then to a small apartment. By this June, unemployment benefits had run out and they resorted to living out of their Ford Focus.

"I was searching for jobs while I was collecting unemployment, and I could not get hired at all," said Cordova, 41, who is now living with his wife at an emergency homeless shelter called Joy Junction.

Sandra Cordova said her job search also has been fruitless.

Jeremy Reynalds, founder and CEO of Joy Junction, said he's never seen such high levels of homelessness and poverty in his 25 years of running the shelter, now New Mexico's largest.

"Demand is going higher, and higher, and higher," he said. "I mean, it really is scary."

Just a few years ago, the shelter was averaging around 100 residents a night. Now, Reynolds says, it's regularly filled with 300 every evening, and people are turned away every day.

The Cordovas said they see their situation as a "test from God" and are taking advantage of Joy Junction's life-skills programs. Sandra Cordova is taking computer classes and Tim is helping with shelter security. Both said they are not ashamed of their situation; they've even invited their grandchildren to visit the shelter.

"I just want another house. I just want another job," said Tim. "I want to prove that I can do it the right way."

Reynalds said donations to the shelter are down, but more people are helping out in person.

"More people are opting to volunteer," said Reynalds, "because I think they know that are a paycheck or two away from being homeless themselves." ***(Russell Contreras)***

AP

In this Sept. 16, 2011 photo, Kris Fallon holds her 4-month-old daughter Addison, in Palatine, Ill., as her 15-year-old son Gared Fallon looks on. The Fallon family has been living in poverty for nearly two years.

Overdrive

2011 Kia Optima Hybrid gets a makeover

By BARRY SPYKER
MCCLATCHY NEWSPAPERS

The 2011 Kia Optima Hybrid is not your plain-Jane hybrid.
KIA/MCT

The beauty of the 2011 Kia Optima Hybrid is—surprise!—the beauty.

Weird, huh? A hybrid. Beautiful?

Thing is, the plain-Jane look of the old Optima was in dire need of revision. And for 2011 Kia must have sent it to Elena Castaneda in Manhattan, who turns Plain Janes into prom queens by sharpening their appearance, confidence and attitude. Yes, the newly redesigned Optima certainly has all of that.

First time I laid eyes on the new Optima Hybrid, I thought, "Hey, you forgot to bring me the hybrid." It's downright sporty with its sleek profile, wrap-around headlights and high belt line. Opt for the 18-inch sport wheels that fill the wells, and the Optima looks faster and pricier than it is.

Of course, once you step inside and take off you are reminded that the Optima Hybrid is not about sporty behavior; it's about achieving nearly 40 mpg on the highway and shrinking your so-called carbon footprint.

Power comes from a 2.4-liter four-cylinder engine coupled with a 40-hp electric motor, which lends a hand on the low-end torque. Combined, the Hybrid power team produces 206 horses and 195 pound-feet of torque.

Go easy and the electric motor alone can take you beyond 40 mph. But it doesn't take much pressure on the accelerator to wake up the gas engine.

Still, zero-to-60 can be done in around 9 seconds, which is not too bad for the hybrid segment. And, besides the 40 mpg or so on the highway, this hybrid should manage mid-30s around town, too.

NUTS & BOLTS

2011 Kia Optima Hybrid
- **MSRP:** $26,500
- **As tested:** $32,250 (with $5,000 premium package and $750 destination charge)

When it comes to regulating the speed, the good news is that a six-speed tranny is standard. No dull CVT, or continuously variable transmission, here.

Steering is wonderfully responsive, answering your turns with quickness and precision. And Optima's suspension is surprisingly firm, offering good road feel with comfortable management of the bumps.

Despite the around-town nuances, you'll find the highway ride truly pleasurable. Here, the powertrain offers a confident ride with enough oomph for the passing lane.

But plan on a couple of rest stops: Seats are unusually firm, I thought, for this sort of animal. Legroom is more than ample in the front and rear. Headroom is fine up front but tighter in the rear—blame its sloping roof line. And it gets worse if you opt for the dual sunroof option.

And, speaking of space, figure on losing about a third of Optima's trunk space to the battery pack. I made use of every bit of the 9.9 cubic feet when I packed for a weekender with the wife and daughter.

The cabin is exceptional, though, with soft touch services and an attractive instrument panel featuring white-on-black dials with green accent lighting.

Within the gauges are displays that show the gas-electric power flow and your driving efficiency. And, knowing that you're a green kind of buyer, Kia also included an Active Eco system. Controlled on the steering wheel, it can adjust the transmission and accelerator for more fuel-conscious driving.

This Optima Hybrid version also gets Kia's Uvo system, which provides voice control to navigation, cell phones and even MP3 players.

Besides the ABS system, all Optimas get traction and stability control, side air bags and side curtain air bags. Pay a bit more if you want a rear-view camera—not a necessity with this car. The Optima also has achieved top ratings in frontal and side-impact crash tests.

Optima comes in five trims; the hybrid, one of them, is much like the mid-range EX. That means it gets the Convenience package with eight-way power seats, auto headlights and fog lights.

The Optima Hybrid is available in only about half the states presently, but the other half of the nation will come on board in 2012. With Optima's great looks—I'm not sure there's a sharper looking hybrid out there—and 10-year powertrain warranty, it just might be worth your while to wait it out.

UNDER THE HOOD

Newer cars simplify ignition system

By BRAD BERGHOLDT
MCCLATCHY-TRIBUNE NEWS SERVICE

QUESTION: I had a problem recently while on my way to Los Angeles with my 2006 Toyota RAV4, which has a V6 engine and all-wheel drive. After filling up with gas, I noticed that the engine light, AWD light and vehicle stability control light were on. After driving a short distance, I stopped to make sure the gas cap was on securely. It was.

It still was 150 miles to L.A. with no Toyota dealer close at hand. I decided to continue to L.A. I knew that the engine light on didn't necessarily mean anything seriously was wrong, and the car seemed to run fine. After getting to North Hollywood, I went to a Toyota dealership where they were able to take me in right away.

It turns out I had a bad ignition coil—apparently, one out of the six. I also learned to my surprise that there is no distributor. The coils work independently with each cylinder. I asked the customer support rep why all the lights went on. He said it was probably because the gases were not being burned completely on the firing cycle, which lit up the engine light. The other lights were lit up just to get your attention.

Being an old car guy from years ago, I never heard of the new ignition system change. How does the distributor-less ignition system work, and is there a way to check the coils? Why was the AWD on?—P. Sargent

ANSWER: It's been a while since electronic ignition systems—the official name for an ignition system without a distributor—have been discussed, so perhaps it's time for a tune-up.

Getting rid of an engine's distributor is a good move, as it's best to make the big spark needed for ignition closer to the sparkplugs. Older, distributor-equipped systems required greater maintenance and created mechanical drag on the engine, and spark-plug wires sometimes allowed spark to leak to the wrong place. Electronic ignition systems use crankshaft and camshaft sensors to determine the precise position and stroke of each piston.

The powertrain control module takes this information, along with engine temperature, load and other factors, to determine the optimum spark timing. Then it commands each cylinder's coil to make it happen. These processes are highly reliable, as it's all done at 14 or fewer volts. Individual ignition coils, typically mounted directly atop each spark plug, minimize the chance for spark loss. They do occasionally fail, usually due to cracks or porosity in the coil's plastic housing. That is likely what happened to yours.

Testing electronic ignition coils is fairly easy: You simply check that each coil, while still connected to the command wires but removed from the spark plug, can make ample spark without leaking it to nearby metal.

Your multiple warning lights are a common theme these days, and it's not really done to get your attention. The many systems in a vehicle communicate with each other, sharing information and functions. A fault in one system may cause another to suspend operation because of safety concerns or because the shared information isn't available or reliable. The powertrain control module pretty much rules the roost, and when an engine performance fault occurs, other systems, like all-wheel drive and vehicle stability control, are instructed to stand down.

Your faulty ignition coil apparently had a minor fault—perhaps occasional spark loss—as you didn't notice the thumping of a more consistent misfire. A more serious engine misfire would also result in the "check engine" light flashing, rather than illuminating continuously, and requires immediate attention.

Brad Bergholdt is an automotive technology instructor at Evergreen Valley College in San Jose, Calif. Readers may send him email at under-the-hood@earthlink.net; he cannot make personal replies.

WITH DEEPEST APPRECIATION

On behalf of our Beloved Mother, Grandmother, and Great Grandmother

Margarita Jones Castro

We, wish to extend our sincere appreciation to all our families, relatives, and friends for the compassion you showed us during our time of sorrow. We ESPECIALLY would like to acknowledge and thank all of you for the many thoughtful prayers, words of comfort, and unending support and other considerate acts of grace extended to us. Your presence and prayers during the nightly rosaries, funeral mass, and the burial has helped us endure our great loss.

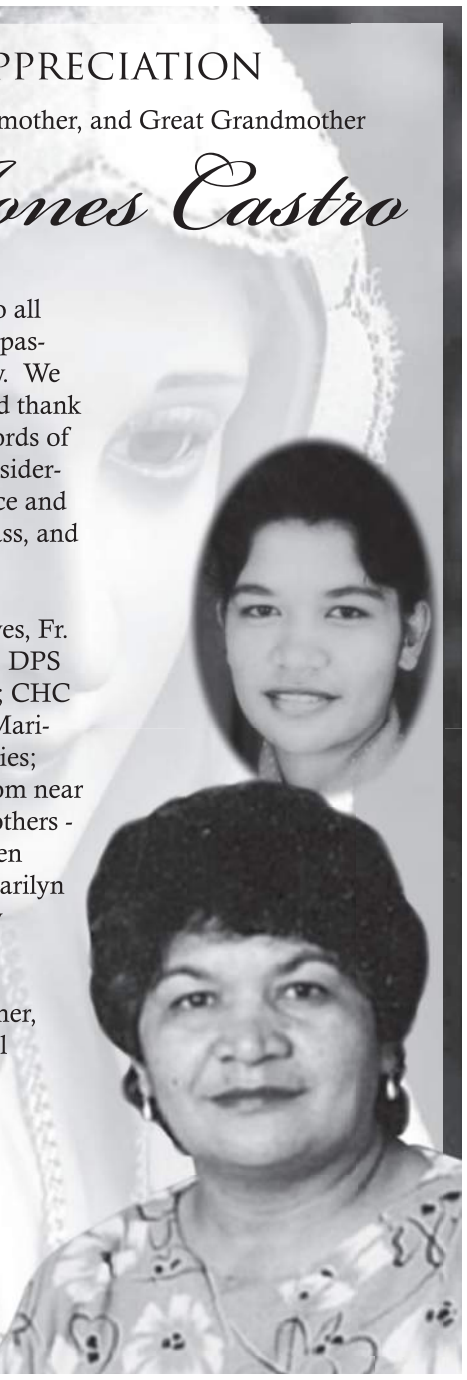
We extend our special thanks to: Fr. Jesse Reyes, Fr. Jojo, and Fr. Celso; Cabrera Funeral Services; DPS Escort; American Embassy Vilnius Lithuania; CHC Physicians, Nurses, and Hemodialysis Staff; Marianas Health Services; Jones and Castro Families; San Roque Parish, our Family and Friends from near and far, Magnificat Choir (Lou Kisa), Godmothers - Regina L. Sablan and Susana T. Mafnas, Joeten Family, and especially to our Techa Auntie Marilyn (Meng) P. Jones. And to all those that we may have forgot to mention

To all who have helped us in one way or another, your presence, compassion and generosity will always be remembered

May God bless us all.

Si Yu'us Ma'ase – Thank You

Children and Family



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Straw Dogs

Friday		4:20	7:20	10:00
Saturday	1:20	4:20	7:20	10:00
Sunday	1:20	4:20	7:20	
Mon thru Thurs		4:20	7:20	

James Marsden, Kate Bosworth

Thriller • Rated R

Synopsis

A Hollywood screenwriter and his wife come under attack from her ex-flame and his vicious friends in director Rod Lurie's remake of Sam Peckinpah's 1971 home-invasion classic. In the wake of her father's death, Amy (Kate Bosworth) returns to her rural Southern hometown with her husband, David (James Marsden). Her goal is to put her childhood home on the market while David works on his latest screenplay. Meanwhile, David hires Amy's high school boyfriend Charlie (Alexander Skarsgård) and his crew to rebuild the roof on the secluded country home.

Drive

Friday		4:30	7:30	9:40
Saturday	1:30	4:30	7:30	9:40
Sunday	1:30	4:30	7:30	
Mon thru Thurs		4:30	7:30	

Ryan Gosling, Carey Mulligan

Thriller • Rated R

Synopsis

Director Nicolas Winding Refn (The Pusher Trilogy, Bronson) teams with screenwriter Hossein Amini to adapt author James Sallis' novel about a lone-wolf Hollywood stunt driver who moonlights as a criminal getaway driver. When the lightning-fast wheelman (Ryan Gosling) incurs the wrath of L.A.'s most dangerous criminal (Albert Brooks), the only way out of the mess is to put the pedal to the metal. Carey Mulligan, Bryan Cranston, Christina Hendricks, and Ron Perlman co-star.

I Don't Know How She Does It

Friday		4:05	7:05	9:35
Saturday	1:05	4:05	7:05	9:35
Sunday	1:05	4:05	7:05	
Mon thru Thurs		4:05	7:05	

Sarah Jessica Parker, Pierce Brosnan

Comedy • Rated PG 13

★ ★ ★

Contagion

Friday		4:25	7:25	9:55
Saturday	1:25	4:25	7:25	9:55
Sunday	1:25	4:25	7:25	
Mon thru Thurs		4:25	7:25	

Matt Damon, Marion Cottilard

Action • Rated PG 13

Shark Night 2D

Friday		4:15	7:15	9:50
Saturday	1:15	4:15	7:15	9:50
Sunday	1:15	4:15	7:15	
Mon thru Thurs		4:15	7:15	

Sinqua Walls, Chris Carmack

Horror • Rated PG 13

Conan The Barbarian

Friday		4:10	7:10	9:45
Saturday	1:10	4:10	7:10	9:45
Sunday	1:10	4:10	7:10	
Mon thru Thurs		4:10	7:10	

Jason Momoa, Rachel Nichols

Action Fantasy • Rated R

Spy Kids: All The Time In The World

Friday		4:00	7:00	9:30
Saturday	1:00	4:00	7:00	9:30
Sunday	1:00	4:00	7:00	
Mon thru Thurs		4:00	7:00	

Jessica Alba, Joel McHale

Spy film, Adventure • Rated PG

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Life & Style

AP

Steven Levitan, center, and the cast and crew of "Modern Family" accept the award for outstanding comedy series at the 63rd Primetime Emmy Awards on Sunday, Sept. 18, 2011 in Los Angeles.

'Modern Family,' 'Mad Men' win big at Emmy Awards

LOS ANGELES (AP)—The Emmys keep buying what "Mad Men" is selling. The 1960s Madison Avenue saga won its fourth consecutive best drama series award Sunday, while big-hearted romp "Modern Family" claimed its second best comedy trophy.

"Modern Family" producer Steve Levitan, whose picture of the American family today includes gay couples and interracial families, told of being approached during shooting by a real-life gay couple who wanted to say thanks.

"They said, 'You're not just making people laugh, you're making them more tolerant,'" said Levitan, whose show received a total of five awards.

While "Mad Men" gained the top drama award, it couldn't pull honors for stars Jon Hamm or Elisabeth Moss.

Kyle Chandler was the surprise winner in the best drama actor category for the last season of Texas football drama "Friday Night Lights," blocking odds-on favorites among his fellow nominees, including Hamm.

"I knew for a fact I would not be standing here. I did not write anything and now I'm starting to worry," said Chandler, who also beat out Steve Buscemi of "Boardwalk Empire."

It was a fitting victory for Chandler and "Friday Night Lights," which was critically acclaimed but struggled for an audience, and whose high school football team's motto was, "clear eyes, full hearts, can't lose."

Julianna Margulies won top drama acting honors for "The Good Wife." Margulies, who navigates politics, law and family in the show, added to her Emmy stash. As part of the "ER" medical drama cast, she won a supporting actress Emmy in 1995.

Melissa McCarthy of "Mike & Molly" was honored as best lead actress in a comedy series with an Emmy and a glitzy prom queen's crown, while Jim Parsons of "The Big Bang Theory" earned his second trophy in the best actor category.

"Holy smokes. Wow, it's my first and best pageant ever," said a beaming McCarthy. "I'm from Plainfield, Ill., and I'm standing here and it's kind of amazing."

Moments earlier, she and her fellow nominees had broken with tradition by jumping up on stage as their names were called, led by Amy Poehler of "Parks and Recreation."

They earned a standing ovation from many in the audience, which seemed fitting in a year in which TV shows and movies are giving women edgier leading roles. Among them is the box-office hit "Bridesmaids," which featured McCarthy.

Parsons looked genuinely surprised at his victory. "This is so odd for so many reasons. I was assured by many people in my life that this wasn't happening," he said.

The first awards in the drama category went to Jason Katims of "Friday Night Lights" for outstanding writing, and Margo Martindale, named best supporting actress for the show "Justified."

"Sometimes, things just take time. But with time comes great appreciation," said the veteran actress.

Peter Dinklage, the winning actor in the category for sci-fi fantasy "Game of Thrones," was awed by another winner, filmmaker Martin Scorsese, who received a directing trophy for "Boardwalk Empire."

"Thanks. Wow. Wow. I followed Martin Scorsese. My heart is pounding. You are a legend," Dinklage said.

The directing trophy was the sole award Sunday for "Boardwalk Empire," HBO's lavishly produced tale of Prohibition-era mobsters and crooked politicos on the make in freewheeling Atlantic City, N.J.

"Modern Family" won the first four Emmys, capturing best supporting comedy actress, best supporting comedy actor, best writing for a comedy and best direction for a comedy series.

Julie Bowen and Ty Burrell, who play husband and wife on the series, won best supporting actor honors for a comedy series.

"Oh, my God, I don't know what I'm going to talk about in therapy next week," said a shocked-looking Bowen. "I won something."

Burrell spoke of his own father in accepting his best supporting actor award.

"I actually got kind of a late start in acting. My dad actually passed away before he ever saw me perform and I can't help but wonder what he would think about all this ... going to work in full makeup," Burrell said.

Christina Hendricks of "Mad Men" and Julia Stiles of "Dexter" were among those bringing glamour to the ceremony.

"She looks awesome, as always," said fan Jessica Steiner, 26, of Hendricks, who was wearing a rhinestone-encrusted gown with a plunging neckline.

"Modern Family" nominee Sofia Vergara wore an ultra-glam, one-shouldered peach goddess gown and chandelier earrings. Gwyneth Paltrow stood by her, in a sleek black gown with cut-outs.

"Gwyneth is classy, and Sofia is sexy," said fan Vanessa Baeza, 27. "But I think Sofia looks better. Her dress is more flattering."

Steve Carell of "The Office" made his last Emmy stand for his fifth and final season as clueless manager Michael Scott, but lost again.

A new category, which combines the previously separate best miniseries and made-for-TV movie nominees, included the miniseries "Mildred Pierce," with Kate Winslet nominated in the role of an embattled mother, and the movie "Too Big to Fail," about the U.S. fiscal crisis in 2008.

Film star Winslet, an Oscar winner, captured the trophy for lead actress, while her co-star Guy Pearce won the award for best supporting actor.

"I'm thrilled. I had a crush on Guy Pearce since I was 11 years old, so just to stand in the same room as him was really thrilling for me," Winslet said.

Barry Pepper, who played Robert F. Kennedy in the controversial miniseries "The Kennedys," won the best supporting actor award. Maggie Smith won supporting actress honors for the miniseries "Downton Abbey," which also was named best in its category.

WINNERS' LIST

List of winners at Sunday's 63rd Annual Primetime Emmy Awards presented by the **Academy of Television Arts & Sciences:**

Drama Series: "Mad Men," AMC.
Actress, Drama Series: Julianna Margulies, "The Good Wife," CBS.
Actor, Drama Series: Kyle Chandler, "Friday Night Lights," DirecTV/NBC.
Supporting Actor, Drama Series: Peter Dinklage, "Game of Thrones," HBO.
Supporting Actress, Drama Series: Margo Martindale, "Justified," FX.
Writing, Drama Series: Jason Katims, "Friday Night Lights," NBC.
Directing, Drama Series: Martin Scorsese, "Boardwalk Empire," HBO.
Comedy Series: "Modern Family," ABC.
Actor, Comedy Series: Jim Parsons, "The Big Bang Theory," CBS.
Actress, Comedy Series: Melissa McCarthy, "Mike & Molly," CBS.
Supporting Actress, Comedy Series: Julie Bowen, "Modern Family," ABC.
Supporting Actor, Comedy Series: Ty Burrell, "Modern Family," ABC.
Writing, Comedy Series: Steven Levitan and Jeffrey Richman, "Modern Family," ABC.
Directing, Comedy Series: Michael Spiller, "Modern Family," ABC.
Miniseries or Movie: "Downton Abbey (Masterpiece)," PBS.
Actress, Miniseries or Movie: Kate Winslet, "Mildred Pierce," HBO.
Actor, Miniseries or Movie: Barry Pepper, "The Kennedys," ReelzChannel.
Supporting Actress, Miniseries or Movie: Maggie Smith, "Downton Abbey (Masterpiece)," PBS.
Supporting Actor, Miniseries or Movie: Guy Pearce, "Mildred Pierce," HBO.
Directing, Miniseries, Movie or Dramatic Special: Brian Percival, "Downton Abbey (Masterpiece)," PBS.
Writing, Miniseries, Movie or Dramatic Special: Julian Fellowes, "Downton Abbey (Masterpiece)," PBS.
Reality-Competition Program: "The Amazing Race," CBS.
Variety, Music or Comedy Series: "The Daily Show With Jon Stewart," Comedy Central.
Directing, Variety, Music or Comedy Series: Don Roy King, "Saturday Night Live," NBC.
Writing, Variety, Music or Comedy Series: "The Daily Show With Jon Stewart," Comedy Central.

3-D 'Lion King' feels the love with $29.3M opening

LOS ANGELES (AP)—It's 1994 all over again, with a re-release of "The Lion King" opening at the top of the box office.

A 3-D version of the wildly popular Disney animated musical earned a surprising $29.3 million in its first weekend in theaters, according to Sunday estimates. The original film made more than $40 million when it opened nationwide 17 years ago.

This huge number stunned many people, including the folks at Disney, who figured "The Lion King" would make somewhere between $10 million and $12 million, said Dave Hollis, the studio's executive vice president of distribution.

He said the movie remains relevant and as entertaining as it was when it first came out.

"But taking a page from the movie, there is a `circle of life' thing happening," he said, referring to one of the film's themes. "You have children of the `90s who are now parents of the 2010s and they themselves are taking their kids to share what was, for them, a great experience two decades ago."

It also helps that there aren't many options for families at the multiplex right now, said Paul Dergarabedian, box-office analyst for Hollywood.com.

"The post-summer period brings a preponderance of R-rated films and more challenging, esoteric, Oscar-caliber fare," he said. "For kids this is like a dream come true and for parents to be able to revisit `The Lion King'—especially in 3-D, even though 3-D has taken a bad rap over the past year—just tells you the power that this movie has, how strong it resonates with people."

Hollis said that while the film was also available in 2-D, 92 percent of the opening weekend's business came from 3-D showings.

The story of a wrongly exiled lion prince (voiced by Jonathan Taylor Thomas as a cub and Matthew Broderick as an adult) who must return home to claim his throne, "The Lion King" was the second-highest-grossing film of 1994, behind "Forrest Gump."

It ranks fourth on the all-time animated list with over $784 million. It earned Academy Awards for Hans Zimmer's original score and for original song for Elton John and Tim Rice's "Can You Feel the Love Tonight."

Last week's No. 1 movie, Steven Soderbergh's "Contagion," dropped a spot in its second weekend. The Warner Bros. viral thriller made about $14.5 million for a total of $44.2 million.

Among the other new releases, the critical darling "Drive" came in at No. 3 with just over $11 million. Ryan Gosling stars as a stoic wheelman in the retro action picture from FilmDistrict.

"Straw Dogs," a remake of the 1971 Sam Peckinpah thriller from Sony Screen Gems, opened in fifth place with only $5 million. It stars James Marsden and Kate Bosworth as a married couple under siege in the rural South.

"I Don't Know How She Does It," based on the best-seller of the same name, came in at No. 6 with just $4.5 million. The Weinstein Co. comedy stars Sarah Jessica Parker as a wife and mother of two struggling to balance her home life with her demanding job.

Dergarabedian said such disappointing showings aren't all that surprising this time of year. Last weekend was the slowest so far this year at the box office.

"It's been tough marketplace for wide releases. The newcomers are being met with some indifference," he said. "The audience was obviously a family audience that took over the multiplex this weekend."

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Hollywood.com. Where available, latest international numbers are also included. Final domestic figures will be released Monday.

1. **"The Lion King 3D,"** $29.3 million. ($700,000 international.)
2. **"Contagion,"** $14.5 million. ($1.3 million international.)
3. **"Drive,"** $11 million.
4. **"The Help,"** $6.4 million. ($1.1 million international.)
5. **"Straw Dogs,"** $5 million.
6. **"I Don't Know How She Does It,"** $4.5 million. ($800,000 international.)
7. **"The Debt,"** $2.9 million. ($1 million international.)
8. **"Warrior,"** $2.8 million. ($400,000 international.)
9. **"Rise of the Planet of the Apes,"** $2.6 million.
10. **"Colombiana,"** $2.3 million.

Estimated weekend ticket sales at international theaters (excluding the U.S. and Canada), according to Rentrak:

1. **"The Smurfs,"** $17.3 million.
2. **"Johnny English Reborn,"** $11.7 million.
3. **"Friends With Benefits,"** $9.2 million.
4. **"Rise of the Planet of the Apes,"** $7.8 million.
5. **"Final Destination 5,"** $6.5 million.
6. **"Captain America: The First Avenger,"** $5.1 million.
7. **"Crazy Stupid Love,"** $4.7 million.
8. **"Horrible Bosses,"** $4.2 million.
9. **"Cowboys & Aliens,"** $4 million.
10. **"Mannerherzen 2,"** $3.5 million.

Princess Kate exploring UK charity work

LONDON (AP)—Newly-minted royal Kate Middleton is on the hunt—no, not for foxes but for her own charity gig.

St. James's Palace on Sunday confirmed that Kate—now formally known as Catherine, Duchess of Cambridge—is spending the next few months exploring the charitable sector as she mulls what to make of her position at the top of British society. The move shows that Princess Kate is following a family tradition championed by the late Princess Diana, her mother-in-law.

The idea is "to get to know a number of charitable and other causes better, so she can make well-informed decisions about her future role," her spokesman said, declining to elaborate. "The duchess plans to meet a wide range of people and make private visits."

He spoke on condition of anonymity, as required by palace policy. The *Sunday Times* said the 29-year-old princess had already begun making under-the-radar trips to various unnamed U.K. institutions.

Running or founding charities has long been a favored pastime for Britain's royals. Prince Charles, Kate's father-in-law, is the patron or president of no fewer than 20.

But it was Charles' former wife, Princess Diana, whose hands-on approach set the bar for future royal charity work.

Baldwin out of Emmys after hacking joke nixed

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Leonard Nimoy was a last-minute sub for Alec Baldwin on the Emmy Awards opening because of a flap over a joke about News Corp.'s phone hacking scandal.

Alec Baldwin had taped the segment, playing a fictional president of the television academy, with show host Jane Lynch. But Baldwin asked that he be left out when Fox nixed the joke that referenced the hacking scandal in Britain involving the now-closed News of the World tabloid. Both Fox and News of the World are owned by News Corp.

Fox said the network believed it was inappropriate to make light of an issue being taken seriously by the company. The joke reportedly involved Baldwin on a telephone and saying, "Is that you, Rupert?" a reference to News Corp. boss Rupert Murdoch, suggesting he was listening in on the conversation.

Baldwin was not at the Emmys because of a previous commitment to attend Tony Bennett's birthday party in New York. He tweeted that Fox killed the joke, "which sucks because I think it would have made them look better."

He also tweeted: "If I were enmeshed in a scandal where I hack the phone of families of innocent crime victims purely 4 profit, I'd want that 2 go away, 2."

Mark Burnett, who is producing the Emmys telecast, said, "There's nonstop drama, but everything is fine," when asked about the incident.

Baldwin is scheduled to host "Saturday Night Live" next week. Director Don Roy King was asked if the NBC show would address Baldwin's joke being cut from the Emmys.

"I sure hope so," King said.

But he noted that it's not his call whether the subject comes up. "I'm the director," he said. "I make sure the shots get on the air, the jokes get sold, but before that moment, the decisions are made by others."

Emmy presenter Sheen wishes his old show well

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Charlie Sheen turned a surprise appearance on the Emmys into a platform to offer his blessing to his old series.

He was on hand Sunday night as presenter of Outstanding Lead Actor in a Comedy Series, which he wryly described as "my old category."

But the actor, who had a rancorous parting last season from "Two and a Half Men," took a moment before reading the nominees to wish his former series well.

"From the bottom of my heart," he said, "I wish you nothing but the best for this upcoming season. We spent eight wonderful years together and I know you will continue to make great television."

On Monday, the new season begins with Ashton Kutcher replacing Sheen in the CBS hit.

AP

Charlie Sheen presents the award for outstanding lead actor in a comedy series at the 63rd Primetime Emmy Awards on Sunday, Sept. 18, 2011 in Los Angeles.

Whiny sister should take her ailments to a doctor

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: My sister "Dena" has a lot of health issues. She weighs more than 300 pounds, has bad knees, ankles and legs, liver trouble and bad nerves. I love her dearly. She's not only my sister, but my best friend. I feel sorry for her, but I can't take her constant complaining every single day.

Sure, everyone has bad days, but Dena complains to anyone who will listen—friends, family, everybody. She never asks how anyone else is doing. I beg her to make a doctor's appointment. Most times, she doesn't go and keeps complaining.

I don't want to hurt her feelings, but this has taken a toll on me. Abby, I have my own aches and pains to manage. How can I tell my sister—in an endearing way—to stop all her moaning and groaning?

REACHED MY LIMIT IN HOUSTON

DEAR REACHED YOUR LIMIT: Your sister may complain about her aches and pains because she has nothing else to think about. She is limited in her activities so her world has shrunk to nothing beyond herself. How sad for her.

The next time she raises the subject, tell her the person who should be hearing her symptoms is her doctor because there's nothing you can do about them. And follow up with, "Now, Honey, tell me something positive. We all have things to be thankful for."

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: We have close friends who are like family. They have one child—a son, "Justin," who is in the Boy Scouts. He has wanted to quit for two years but his parents won't let him. They have been doing his work on the badges all along. His dad is the scout leader. They volunteer us all the time on different projects, but we're tired of it and have tried in a nice way to let them know.

What bothers me most is that Justin sits around playing video games while we're stuck doing his work. Now, his parents have him going for his Eagle Scout project—a large one requiring quite a bit of work—and they have volunteered us again. My husband already works hard. It isn't fair that he does all the work and Justin gets the credit. Without destroying this friendship, what do you suggest, Abby?

FED UP DOWN SOUTH

DEAR FED UP: If your friendship with this couple is based on being at their beck and call and doing their son's projects for him, then you're paying a high price for it. Justin should be earning his own merit badges, and your husband should be telling the scoutmaster that he has projects of his own that take precedence. It doesn't have to be said harshly, just firmly. If your husband can't muster the courage, then face it—you'll both be in the Boy Scouts until Justin has "flown" as an Eagle.

■ ■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I am a 20-year-old female. I'm working on a degree, have a job, but have never had a serious boyfriend. I don't have a problem socializing with men, but I'm interested in them only until they ask me out. I'll go on a date or two, then I'll be done with them. It doesn't matter if they're sweethearts or bad boys. It seems I like only what I can't have.

Is there something wrong with me, or will it be different when I meet "the one"?

ALWAYS SINGLE IN OHIO

DEAR ALWAYS SINGLE: It appears you like the chase more than the reward. While it may be different when you meet "the one," recognize that you have established a pattern. There is more to a relationship with a man than getting his attention. You also have to NURTURE it.

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

What teens need to know about sex, drugs, AIDS and getting along with peers and parents is in "What Every Teen Should Know." To order, send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby—Teen Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

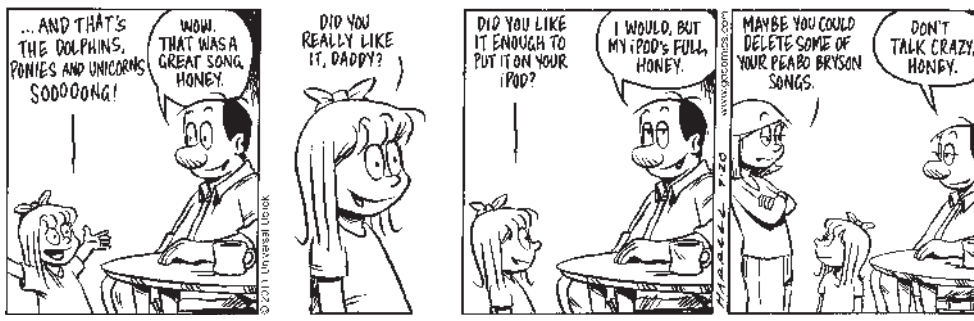
I CAN'T BELIEVE MY MOM SIGNED ME UP FOR SWIMMING LESSONS.
HERE I AM FREEZING MY BUNS OFF AT 9 IN THE MORNING, ABOUT TO JUMP INTO ICE WATER AND DROWN.
THE ONLY THING THAT COULD POSSIBLY MAKE THIS WORSE WOULD BE IF THE CLASS WAS...
..TAUGHT BY MY SADISTIC, BABY SITTER!!
WELL, LOOK WHO'S HERE!

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

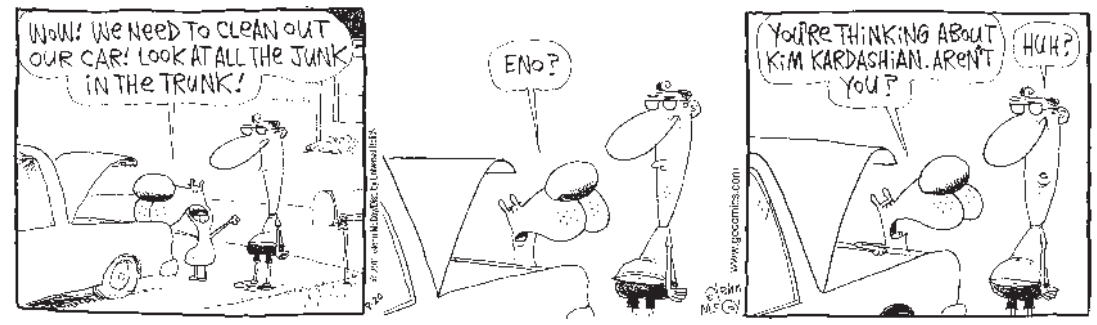
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


...AND THAT'S THE DOLPHINS, PONIES AND UNICORNS SOOOOONG!
WOW. THAT WAS A GREAT SONG, HONEY.
DID YOU REALLY LIKE IT, DADDY?
DID YOU LIKE IT ENOUGH TO PUT IT ON YOUR iPOD?
I WOULD, BUT MY iPOD'S FULL, HONEY.
MAYBE YOU COULD DELETE SOME OF YOUR PEABO BRYSON SONGS.
DON'T TALK CRAZY, HONEY.

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS
1 Padlocked fastener
5 Pigpen
8 Human heart, basically
12 Always
13 Before
14 Sandwich cookie
15 Note from the boss
16 Staff with robots?
18 Ape, e.g.
20 Pie-in-the-face sound
21 — de deux
22 Same (Pref.)
23 Verbalizes, Biblically
26 Weather conditions
30 White wine aperitif
31 Stir-fry pan
32 Trotted
33 Mosque leader's office
36 "The Silence of the —"
38 "— Impossible"
39 Help
40 Thingamajig (Var.)
43 Enliven
47 Quite close
49 "American —"
50 Gangster's subordinate
51 Dress in
52 Tiers
53 Hosiery woe
54 Suitable
55 Slave to crosswords?

DOWN
1 Rope fiber
2 State with conviction
3 Big truck
4 On time
5 Airplane furniture
6 Verifiable
7 Nevertheless
8 Cheerleader's prop
9 Caspian Sea feeder
10 Transcending (Pref.)
11 Versifier
17 Bone (Pref.)
19 Backrub response
22 Sort
23 Enjoy Aspen
24 Intention
25 Playwright Levin
26 Miler Sebastian
27 Branch
28 Bill
29 Type measures
31 Lbs., ozs., et al.
34 Acting out wordlessly
35 Teeny bit
36 Roman 52
37 Put on a pedestal
39 Regarding
40 Showbiz jobs
41 Part of the loop
42 Old portico
43 On
44 Commotions
45 It may be painted red
46 Otherwise
48 Oklahoma city

Solution time: 21 mins.

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C	H	E	Γ	■	C	L	S	I	N	O	R	E
■	■	S	U	N	■	L	I	M	O	■	■	■
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O	M	N	I	V	O	R	E	■	I	O	T	A
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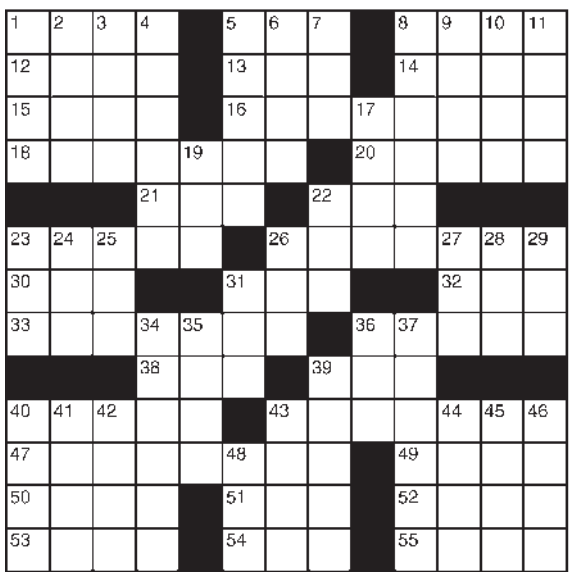
A	N	T	E	■	E	M	S	■	E	T	A	S

Yesterday's answer 9-20



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Juan Pablo Montoya, 36; Kristen Johnston, 44; Gary Cole, 55; Sophia Loren, 77.

Happy Birthday: Focus on work, creativity and profitable ventures. Put your plans first and leave the emotional demands on the shelf until you can deal with them properly. Let someone else pick up the slack at home while you worry about the long-term effects of the choices you make now. If opportunity knocks, there is only one decision to make. Your numbers are 6, 13, 20, 25, 32, 37, 48.

ARIES (*March 21-April 19*): Think before you act. Avoid being impulsive, emotional and willful. Get involved in activities that require physical force. It will give you time to think and keep you out of trouble. Make love, not war. Be passionate, not aggressive. ✪✪

TAURUS (*April 20-May 20*): You will feel impulsive, but acting too fast will be to your detriment. Take a moment, go over your options and learn from past experience. You can win by using your head and considering all consequences before you make your move. ✪✪✪✪

GEMINI (*May 21-June 20*): Tend to personal business, legal matters and any health issues. You can get great satisfaction dealing with institutions that have not been easy to deal with in the past. Clear up inefficiencies so you can start fresh. ✪✪✪

CANCER (*June 21-July 22*): Be reasonable when dealing with domestic issues to avoid opposition. Resolve existing problems; don't magnify them. Strive for equality. An older friend or relative will offer you sound advice. Don't withhold information. ✪✪✪

LEO (*July 23-Aug. 22*): You'll react quickly in any dealing you have with peers or groups. Your ability to take charge will impress a person beneficial to you. Someone may have a change of heart. Consider it a blessing, not a disappointment. Open your eyes to other options. ✪✪✪✪

VIRGO (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): You'll be walking a fine line when dealing with peers. Word your questions carefully and avoid meddling in others' concerns. A joint venture will become a costly affair. Experience can prevent a mistake. Network to obtain valuable information. ✪✪

LIBRA (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Check out unusual philosophies, religions or lifestyles. A change in approach will give you a fresh outlook and help you decipher which past experiences can help you and which should be left behind. Love is on the rise. ✪✪✪✪✪

SCORPIO (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): Evaluate your assets and liabilities. It's time to deal with the future. Get rid of what you don't need and reclaim your life. Taking action is the only way to solve problems and ease stress. Focus on home finances and new beginnings. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): Charm may initially work to get what you want, but eventually you will have to put your money where your mouth is and produce. Don't promise what you cannot deliver when honesty and the willingness to change will suffice. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Expect opposition. People will not see things your way and will put restrictions or demands on you if you want something. Focus on your home, family and personal life. Stabilize your financial situation by making the right choice. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): Good things come to those who wait. Greater stability will ensure that you have what's required to make the necessary changes. You have the power to set the stage for victory and the support system to help you reach your goals. ✪✪✪

PISCES (*Feb. 19-March 20*): Talk is cheap, but it can make a difference. It's up to you to decide what you will put up with. Take control, or someone else will dictate what lies ahead. Focus on home, family and relationships now to avoid a bigger problem later. ✪✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are talented, communicative and eager. You inspire others and attract all types of friends, lovers and associates.

Eugenia's Web sites: ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations,* ***myspace.com/eugenialast*** *for Eugenia's blog,* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun*

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	4			1			2	7
7			9			4		8
				2			9	
	9				6			
5		1				7		9
			2				5	
	1			4				
8		6			9			5
2	5			7			3	

Difficulty Level ★★ 9/20

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer

3	9	1	5	6	2	7	4	8
5	4	7	3	9	8	2	6	1
6	8	2	1	4	7	3	9	5
2	6	8	7	5	3	9	1	4
1	7	4	6	8	9	5	3	2
9	5	3	4	2	1	6	8	7
7	2	6	8	3	4	1	5	9
4	3	9	2	1	5	8	7	6
8	1	5	9	7	6	4	2	3

Difficulty Level ★

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

ORDERING TICKETS ONLINE **Solution: 9 letters**

R	E	I	E	T	A	D	L	I	M	I	T	E	D	R
C	E	V	N	R	A	L	A	I	C	E	P	S	I	E
C	A	S	E	V	S	E	C	U	R	E	C	M	S	F
S	O	N	E	N	E	A	S	R	T	H	M	P	C	F
Q	E	N	C	R	T	N	O	S	E	F	U	I	O	O
W	U	S	N	E	V	O	T	D	L	R	I	R	U	O
E	C	A	G	E	L	A	U	O	C	A	M	G	N	R
P	N	O	N	F	C	L	T	H	R	S	E	S	T	P
A	R	O	N	T	E	T	A	I	D	Y	R	D	S	G
Y	L	E	I	C	I	S	I	T	O	L	P	I	E	S
M	L	M	D	T	E	T	E	O	I	N	I	N	A	P
E	E	I	L	E	A	R	Y	A	N	O	E	H	R	O
N	S	U	A	O	E	C	T	S	S	R	N	I	C	R
T	D	Ⓝ	Ⓐ	Ⓜ	Ⓔ	M	O	N	A	O	C	S	H	T
A	S	T	U	D	E	N	T	L	S	E	N	I	O	R

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Yesterday's Answer: Generic

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Saipan Tribune

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P.O. Box 501021
Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone No: (670) 233-1966

pro se

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In Re The Matter of the Petition to Appoint General Guardianship For:	) FCD GU) CIVIL ACTION) NO. 11-0349
E.W. Minor Child	) **NOTICE OF HEARING**
By:	
RICKY WALTER AND DERESY WALTER Petitioners	

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on September 29, 2011, at 10:00 a.m. in Courtroom 217A, before Associate Judge Perry B. Inos.

Dated this 27th day of August, 2011

BERNADITA SABLAN
Clerk of Court

/s/ Deputy Clerk of Court

Procurement And Supply
CNMI Government

INVITATION TO BID

ITB NO.: ITB11-CHC-135
Submission Date: October 12, 2011 • Time: 10:00 a.m.

"PEST CONTROL SERVICES FOR THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTH CENTER"

Copies of the scope of work may be picked up at the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base Dr., Saipan, during regular working hours.

Questions regarding this IFB should be directed to Thomas Palacios, Chief of General Support Services by Fax to (670) 234-8930 or e-mail to **tspalacios@gmail.com** no later than the close of business, **September 29, 2011**.

Preference is available to US Citizens or Permanent Residents as per Public Law 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118 and must be submitted with the bid if preference is claimed.

/s/ JOSEPH K.P. VILLAGOMEZ
Secretary of Health

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, P&S

Procurement And Supply
CNMI Government

INVITATION TO BID

ITB NO.: ITB11-CHC-136
Submission Date: October 12, 2011 • Time: 1:00 p.m.

"OUTSIDE GROUND MAINTENANCE SERVICES FOR THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTH CENTER"

Copies of the scope of work may be picked up at the Office of the Director, Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base Dr., Saipan, during regular working hours.

Questions regarding this IFB should be directed to Thomas Palacios, Chief of General Support Services by Fax to (670) 234-8930 or e-mail to **tspalacios@gmail.com** no later than the close of business, **September 29, 2011**.

Preference is available to US Citizens or Permanent Residents as per Public Law 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118 and must be submitted with the bid if preference is claimed.

/s/ JOSEPH K.P. VILLAGOMEZ
Secretary of Health

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, P&S

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• 5-Liner	**$24**	**$39**
• 3-Liner with picture	**$24**	**$42**
• 5-Liner with picture	**$36**	**$57**

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Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

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- All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

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REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

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Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

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Find today's solution in this section

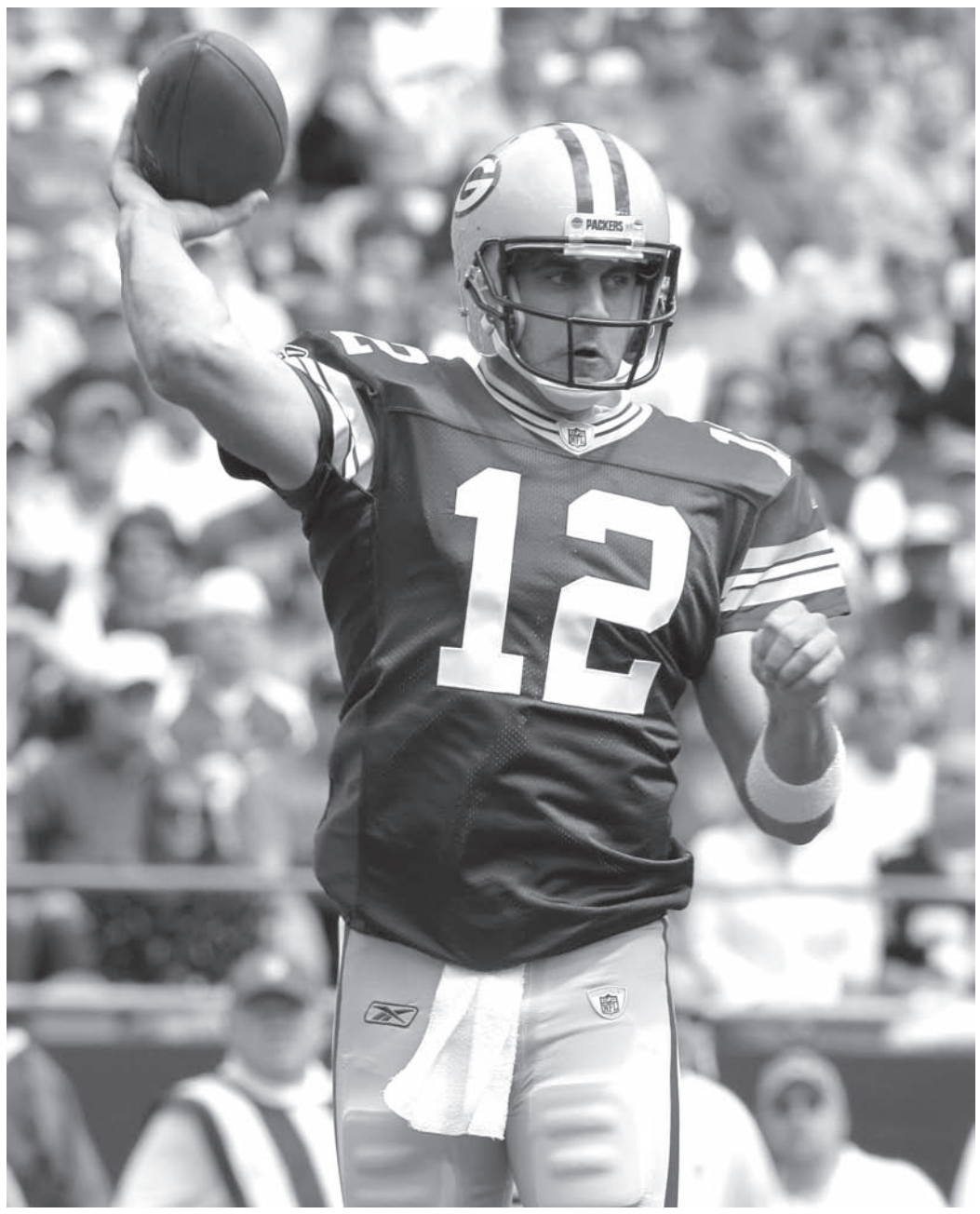
Rodgers, Packers beat Newton, Panthers

CHARLOTTE, North Carolina (AP) — Aaron Rodgers threw for 308 yards and two scores, while the Green Bay Packers withstood another 400-yard passing day from Carolina rookie Cam Newton to beat the Panthers 30-23 on Sunday.

A week after throwing for 422 yards, Newton topped himself by throwing for 432 yards and a touchdown. He also ran for a 4-yard touchdown with 37 seconds left to bring Carolina (0-2) within seven, but the Packers (2-0) recovered the onside kick to seal the victory.

Rodgers found Greg Jennings for a 49-yard touchdown early in the third quarter to put the Packers ahead for good. Then, after Clay Matthews stopped Newton on a fourth-down run inside the 5, Rodgers found Jordy Nelson for an 84-yard touchdown to make it a two-possession game and help the Packers hang on.

While Newton had another big yardage day, the Packers' defense came up big by forcing the rookie into three interceptions—two by Charles Woodson.



AP

Green Bay Packers' Aaron Rodgers throws a pass against the Carolina Panthers during the second quarter of an NFL football game in Charlotte, N.C., Sunday, Sept. 18, 2011.

Browns 27, Colts 19

In Indianapolis, Peyton Hillis ran for 94 yards and two touchdowns, Colt McCoy threw for 211 yards and a score and Cleveland ended a five-game losing streak against Peyton Manning-less Indianapolis.

The Colts are 0-2 for the first time since 1998, and Manning likely will miss two months following his third neck surgery in 20 months. The Browns rebounded with their first win for new coach Pat Shurmur after a loss to the Bengals last week.

Falcons 35, Eagles 31

In Atlanta, Matt Ryan threw a career-high four touchdown passes as Atlanta rallied to beat Philadelphia after Michael Vick was knocked out with an injury late in the third quarter.

Ryan hit Tony Gonzalez with a pair of TDs, the tight end going past Terrell Owens for fifth on the NFL's career receiving list. Then, Ryan hooked up with Ovie Mughelli on a 1-yarder that brought Atlanta to 31-28 with just over 6 minutes remaining.

Vick left with a neck injury after getting spun by a Falcons rusher into a Philadelphia blocker. He staggered off the field and Mike Kafka came in for his first NFL game.

Saints 30, Bears 13

In New Orleans, Drew Brees threw for three touchdowns and New Orleans' defense beat up on Jay Cutler.

Brees' scoring strikes included a 79-yarder to Devery Henderson. Darren Sproles scored on a 12-yard swing pass and Robert Meachem had a 4-yard TD reception as the Saints (1-1) bounced back from an opening week loss to Green Bay.

Facing heavy blitzing and without injured receiver Roy Williams, Cutler passed for 244 yards and a score, but was sacked six times and fumbled once.

Bills 38, Raiders 35

In Orchard Park, New York, Ryan Fitzpatrick threw a 6-yard touchdown pass to David Nelson with 14 seconds left to cap a wild back-and-forth fourth quarter.

The Bills scored touchdowns on all five of their second-half possessions to overcome a 21-3 first-half deficit. The teams traded leads five times over the final 14:10.

Fred Jackson scored twice and had 117 yards rushing for the Bills (2-0) in their home opener. Fitzpatrick finished 28 of 46 for 264 yards and three touchdowns.

Patriots 35, Chargers 21

In Foxborough, Massachusetts, Tom Brady threw for 423 yards six days after setting a single-game team record of 517 in leading New England.

Brady had three touchdown passes and tied for the third most yards passing in club history, going 31 of 40 with no interceptions as the Patriots (2-0) scored on each of their four first-half possessions.

Philip Rivers threw for 378 yards for the Chargers.

Cowboys 27, 49ers 24, OT

In San Francisco, playing with a fractured rib, Tony Romo hit Jesse Holley on a 77-yard completion in overtime to set up Dan Bailey's winning 19-yard field goal for Dallas.

Bailey kicked a tying 48-yard field goal as time expired in regulation after missing an early 21-yard attempt. Romo completed five of six passes on the tying drive, connecting on consecutive throws to Holley before finding him again in OT.

Redskins 22, Cardinals 21

In Landover, Maryland, Graham Gano kicked a 34-yard field goal with 1:45 remaining as Washington rallied from an eight-point, fourth-quarter deficit.

The Redskins (2-0) beat the Cardinals (1-1) for the eighth time in a row. Santana Moss' 18-yard catch on fourth down with 5:17 remaining pulled Washington within two, but the 2-point conversion attempt failed.

After a Cardinals punt, the Redskins got the ball back at their own 36 with 4:20 to play and drove to Arizona's 16 to set up Gano's kick.

Steelers 24, Seahawks 0

In Pittsburgh, Ben Roethlisberger threw for 298 yards and a touchdown as the Steelers put their opening week loss to Baltimore behind them.

Mike Wallace caught eight passes for 126 yards and a score and Rashard Mendenhall ran for 67 yards and a touchdown for the Steelers (1-1), who limited the listless Seahawks (0-2) to 164 total yards.

A week after committing seven turnovers while getting whipped by rival Baltimore, the Steelers worked with relentless efficiency against Seattle. Roethlisberger shook off a gimpy right knee to complete 22 of 30 passes, and the defense kept Seattle from taking an offensive snap on Pittsburgh's side of the field until midway through the fourth quarter.

Titans 26, Ravens 13

In Nashville, Tennessee, Matt Hasselbeck threw for 358 yards and a touchdown, and Tennessee gave new coach Mike Munchak a big win in the home opener.

With the Ravens (1-1) focused on stopping Chris Johnson, Hasselbeck attacked through the air. Kenny Britt caught nine passes for 135 yards and a TD, while Nate Washington caught seven passes for 99 yards. Rob Bironas also kicked four field goals as Tennessee (1-1) held the ball for more than 35 minutes and outgained Baltimore 432-229 in total offense.

Texans 23, Dolphins 13

In Miami, Andre Johnson caught a 23-yard touchdown pass from Matt Schaub that helped Houston get off to a 2-0 start.

Miami's sieve-like pass defense was no match for Johnson and Schaub, who threw for 230 yards and had a quarterback rating of 118.5. Johnson made seven catches for 93 yards.

Daniel Thomas rushed for 107 yards for Miami in his NFL debut, but Chad Henne went 12 for 30 and was especially erratic in the red zone.

Buccaneers 24, Vikings 20

In Minneapolis, LeGarrette Blount's 4-yard touchdown run with 31 seconds left lifted Tampa Bay and completed another comeback by quarterback Josh Freeman—this time from a 17-0 halftime deficit.

Eight of Freeman's 14 career victories have come when the Bucs (1-1) went ahead in the fourth quarter or overtime. Given how overwhelmed they were before halftime, outgained 284 yards to 62 during the first two quarters, this might have been the most impressive.

Lions 48, Chiefs 3

In Detroit, Matthew Stafford threw two of his four TD passes to Calvin Johnson and Detroit came away with its largest margin of victory in a regular season game.

The Lions broke the mark they set with a 44-0 win over expansion Jacksonville in 1995 and matched the record set in the 1957 NFL title game when they beat Cleveland 59-14.

The Lions (2-0) led Kansas City 20-3 at halftime and 41-3 early in the fourth quarter after turning two fumbles into TDs.

Jets 32, Jaguars 3

In East Rutherford, New Jersey, Mark Sanchez threw two touchdown passes as the offense started quickly and Antonio Cromartie had two of New York's four interceptions of Luke McCown.

After having not scored an offensive TD in the first quarter in 16 games, the Jets (2-0) won the toss, elected to receive—a rarity under the defensive-minded Rex Ryan—and scored on a 17-yard catch by Santonio Holmes.

Broncos 24, Bengals 22

At Denver, Kyle Orton threw two TD passes to Eric Decker, Willis McGahee ran for another score and John Fox gained his first win as Denver's coach.

The Broncos (1-1) lost two more players to injury—giving them nine, including six starters—but still topped the Bengals (1-1) for the ninth straight time in Denver, where Cincy hasn't won since 1975.

Andy Dalton, who bruised his right wrist and forearm in Cincinnati's win at Cleveland a week earlier, threw for 332 yards for the Bengals.

Artest's name change to Metta World Peace approved

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Ron Artest's bid to become Mr. World Peace was delayed, but not denied.

A court commissioner granted the Lakers forward's request to officially change his name to Metta World Peace on Friday, three weeks after the bid was blocked because Artest had unpaid traffic tickets.

Artest, 31, did not attend a brief hearing Friday.

Superior court spokeswoman Patricia Kelly said that Artest's new last name will be World Peace.

His publicist, Courtney Barnes, said the player chose Metta because it is a traditional Buddhist word that means loving and kindness toward all.

"Changing my name was meant to inspire and bring youth together all around the world," World Peace said in a statement released after the hearing. "After this short delay, my tickets have been paid and I'm glad that it is now official."

He requested the change in June, citing only personal reasons. He is scheduled to appear on the next season of "Dancing With the Stars."

Barnes wrote in an email that World Peace will now have to get a new driver's license to reflect his new name, but the switch won't affect his contracts with the Lakers or any endorsement deals.

Artest helped the Lakers win an NBA title in 2010 and in April he received an award for outstanding service and dedication to the community.

He has testified before Congress to support mental health legislation.

Artest isn't the first athlete to adopt an unusual name.

Lloyd Bernard Free, a professional basketball player who played in the league from 1975-88, had his first name legally changed to World in 1981. A friend had given him the nickname because of his 44-inch vertical leaps and 360-degree dunks.

In the NFL, wide receiver Chad Johnson legally changed his last name to Ochocinco in August 2008 to reflect his jersey number. The name means "eight five" in Spanish. Ochocinco is now with the New England Patriots.

Rose hangs on to win BMW Championship

LEMONT, Ill. (AP)—Justin Rose was trying not to lose the BMW Championship until he decided to play like he wanted to win.

Rose already was feeling the pressure from watching a five-shot lead over John Senden shrink to one. He hit another mediocre shot that came up short of the 17th green, and while he faced a relatively simple chip, Rose thought about using his putter because it would eliminate any chance of a mistake.

"I knew it was kind of coming down to me," Rose said. "Either I was going to fritter it away or make something happen to win the tournament. That's how it felt. I nearly took the 'chicken stick' out there and putted it on 17, and I had a little chat with myself. ... I said, 'These are the moments where tournaments are won.'

"It was an easy chip, it just needed committing to, just not wimping out."

It turned out to be the right move.

Rose chipped in for birdie to restore his lead, then played the 18th without fear to close out an even-par 71 and a two-shot victory that sends him to the Tour Championship with a shot at the $10 million FedEx Cup prize.

"It was just nice to have made the right decision and then execute it," Rose said. "That's a great lesson to learn that down the stretch. It does come down to one moment sometimes, and you just need to be ready for it."

Rose's third career PGA Tour win came at just the right time. He was at No. 34 in the FedEx Cup when he arrived at the third playoff event—only the top 30 from the 70-man field at Cog Hill would advance—and he moved to No. 3 with the victory.

The top five—Webb Simpson, Dustin Johnson, Rose, Luke Donald and Matt Kuchar—at East Lake next week only have to win the Tour Championship to collect the biggest payoff in golf.

There were plenty of consolation prizes to go around.

Senden played bogey-free, an amazing feat in the rain on a tough course, and closed with a 70. He moved from No. 55 to No. 9 in the FedEx Cup, and his spot in the Tour Championship effectively assures him a spot in all four majors next year.

"That chip-in definitely turned things around for him," Senden said.

Geoff Ogilvy had a 69 to finish the week with four rounds in the 60s. He had a decent chance of winning on the back nine, although it didn't take long for the Australian to appreciate the benefits that came with third place.

At the previous playoff event, Ogilvy had to made birdie on the final hole just to advance to the BMW Championship at No. 69. Now, he is on his way to Atlanta for the Tour Championship, and he moved high enough in the world ranking to assure himself a spot in the Presidents Cup at Royal Melbourne, where he has a home off the 14th fairway.

"I'm glad I played well," Ogilvy said. "I just holed some putts for three days, and hit the ball well today on the hard day."

Indeed, there was more than one cup at stake on Sunday.

Rose captured the most important trophy. He finished at 13-under 271 for the biggest win of his career, worth $1.44 million. The BMW Championship also was the final event for the top 10 players to qualify for the Presidents Cup.

AP

Justin Rose holds the J.K. Wadley trophy after he won the final round at the BMW Championship golf tournament on Sunday, Sept. 18, 2011, in Lemont, Ill.

Despite all the possibilities for the U.S. team, there was no change except in the order.

David Toms went from No. 10 to No. 8 with his tie for 10th. The heartache belonged to Bill Haas, who was tied for third at the BMW going into the final round. He was poised to claim one of the 10 spots until he posted a 42 on the back nine and shot 78, when a score of 75 would have been just enough.

"I knew if I played well, something good would happen," Haas said. "And I knew if I played bad, nothing would happen."

It's the second straight year that Haas walked away from Cog Hill feeling empty. A year ago, he finished 31st in the FedEx Cup by a mere seven points.

Hunter Mahan and Jim Furyk nailed down the last two spots for the United States. The other seven who had locked up spots were Matt Kuchar, Steve Stricker, Dustin Johnson, Phil Mickelson, Nick Watney, Webb Simpson and Bubba Watson.

Nothing but the order changed for the International team, too. Its list is based on the world ranking. Ogilvy, who was narrowly No. 10, moved ahead of Ryo Ishikawa to No. 9. The other eight players are Jason Day, Adam Scott, Charl Schwartzel, K.J. Choi, K.T. Kim, Retief Goosen, Ernie Els and Y.E. Yang.

Captains Fred Couples and Greg Norman will make two picks after the Tour Championship. Couples already has said Tiger Woods will be one of his picks.

For the FedEx Cup, Bo Van Pelt nailed down the 30th spot by a comfortable margin over Martin Laird. Even so, there were some tense moments. Despite difficult conditions, Camilo Villegas made nine birdies and had the best round of the day at 66. But he made bogey on the 18th hole, walked off the green to check a scoring terminal and slammed his fist onto the table. Turns out it didn't matter.

Verlander improves to 24-5 with 12th straight win

OAKLAND, California (AP)—Justin Verlander won his 12th straight start, allowing just three hits over eight innings to become the first pitcher in nine years to reach 24 wins and lead the American League Central champion Detroit Tigers over the Oakland Athletics 3-0 Sunday.

Verlander (24-5) extended his scoreless streak to 17 innings, becoming the first pitcher to win a dozen starts in a row since Minnesota's Johan Santana in 2004, according to STATS LLC.

Verlander has the most wins in a major league season since Arizona's Randy Johnson in 2002. With another victory, he would become the most winning pitcher in a season since Oakland's Bob Welch went 27-6 in 1990.

Austin Jackson homered leading off the sixth, the first hit off Guillermo Moscoso (8-9).

Rays 8, Red Sox 5

In Boston, David Price took a line drive off his chest but stuck around to pitch four solid innings as Tampa Bay capitalized on wild knuckleballs from Tim Wakefield (7-7) to cut Boston's AL wild-card lead to two games.

Boston lost for 11th time in 14 games, including defeats in six of seven against the Rays. Tampa Bay trailed Boston by nine games on Sept. 3.

Blue Jays 3, Yankees 0

In Toronto, Mariano Rivera remained at 601 saves as Adam Lind homered twice off Freddy Garcia (11-8) to back Brandon Morrow (10-11) in Toronto's win over New York.

Morrow allowed four hits in eight innings, struck out eight and walked one. Frank Francisco pitched around an Eduardo Nunez double in the ninth for his 16th save.

Rangers 3, Mariners 0

In Seattle, Adrian Beltre hit a two-run homer in the fourth off former teammate Felix Hernandez (14-13) as Texas remained 4 1/2 games ahead of the second-place Los Angeles Angels in the AL West.

Matt Harrison (13-9) won his third straight start, striking out a career-high nine in 6 2-3 innings, and Neftali Feliz got three outs for his 28th save.

Angels 11, Orioles 2

In Baltimore, Erick Aybar went 4 for 4, homered twice and tied a franchise record set by Tim Salmon in 1998 by scoring five runs as the Angels averted a three-game sweep. Vernon Wells also connected for the Angels.

Pitching on three days' rest, Jered Weaver (18-7) allowed two runs and six hits in six innings.

Indians 6, Twins 5

In Minneapolis, Shelley Duncan homered to start a six-run seventh and added a two-run double in the inning as Cleveland completed a three-game sweep and extended Minnesota's losing streak to eight.

Trailing 3-0, the Indians scored five unearned runs in the seventh with help from an error by first baseman Chris Parmalee. Duncan led off with a homer and also doubled in a pair of runs in the inning.

White Sox 10, Royals 5

In Kansas City, Missouri, A.J. Pierzynski homered twice among his four hits and drove in four runs as Chicago stopped a seven-game losing streak and ended Kansas City's seven-game winning streak, the Royals' longest since September 2008.

Paul Konerko and Pierzynski had back-to-back homers leading off the seventh against rookie Louis Coleman.

Giants 12, Rockies 5

In Denver, Pablo Sandoval homered twice in an eight-run fourth inning, part of a six-home run barrage that led the late-charging San Francisco Giants over the Colorado Rockies for their eighth straight win.

On its longest winning streak since April 2007, San Francisco closed within four games of Atlanta, the NL wild-card leader.

Diamondbacks 5, Padres 1

In San Diego, Joe Saunders took a five-hitter into the ninth inning and Paul Goldschmidt drove in three runs as Arizona cut the magic number to five for their first NL West title since 2007.

Saunders (12-12) limited last-place San Diego an unearned run and seven hits in 8 2-3 innings, improving to 3-1 with a 1.47 ERA against the Padres this season.

Mets 7, Braves 5

In Atlanta, Ruben Tejada had four RBIs and Lucas Duda homered off Craig Kimbrel in the ninth inning as New York slowed Atlanta's wild-card bid with a walk-filled 7-5 victory.

Atlanta lost two of three to the Mets, who arrived with a six-game losing streak. New York went 6-4 at Atlanta this year, its first winning record at Turner Field since 2008.

After pinch-hitter Ronny Paulino's bases-loaded walk in the eighth against Jonny Venters (6-2) tied it at 5, Tejada singled to put the Mets ahead for good. Duda's homer was just the second this year off Kimbrel, the NL saves leader.

Cardinals 5, Phillies 0

In Philadelphia, Allen Craig hit two homers and drove in three runs, and Chris Carpenter gave up eight hits in eight innings as St. Louis improved its playoff chances by beating Philadelphia.

Albert Pujols also homered for the Cardinals (83-69), who pulled within 3 1/2 games of the Atlanta Braves in the NL wild-card chase with their ninth win in 11 games. The Cardinals remained 6 1/2 back of the Milwaukee Brewers in the NL Central.

Brewers 8, Reds 1

In Cincinnati, Carlos Gomez and Prince Fielder each hit two-run homers in the first and Zack Greinke breezed through seven sharp innings to help Milwaukee complete a series sweep of Cincinnati.

Greinke (15-6) allowed just two hits and one run with three walks. He tied his season high with 10 strikeouts.

Dodgers 15, Pirates 1

In Los Angeles, James Loney had five hits with three RBIs, and Jerry Sands and Juan Rivera each drove in four runs as Los Angeles routed Pittsburgh.

Sands had a homer among his four hits, leading a 23-hit attack against eight Pittsburgh pitchers. Matt Kemp had three hits, including his 34th homer, and drove in two runs.

Astros 3, Cubs 2

In Chicago, Brett Myers benefited from a reversed homer call to beat Chicago again and Clint Barmes had a two-run single for Houston.

With Chicago down by a run in the eighth and Starlin Castro on first, Carlos Pena's drive to left was initially ruled a two-run homer. The call was overturned after umpires reviewed video of the play. Pena was given a double and Castro was put on third base, then Marlon Byrd flied out to end the threat.

Nationals 4, Marlins 3

In Washington, Wang Chien-ming had the longest start of his comeback from shoulder surgery, leaving with two outs in the seventh inning, and Danny Espinosa delivered his first RBI in two weeks for Washington.

The right-hander allowed runs on Gaby Sanchez's fifth-inning solo shot and Brett Hayes' two-run homer in the seventh. Wang (3-3) gave up six hits, struck out five and didn't walk a batter in 6 2-3 innings.

Kagman upsets Ol'Aces in U19 division

By WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

Kagman eked out a 68-66 upset over Ol'Aces during their U19 game in the 2011 Saipan Rotary Club Youth Basketball League last Friday at the TSL Spors Complex.

The win gave Kagman an even 2-2 card, while Ol'Aces is still in search for its first official victory. Due to age eligibility issues, Ol'Aces was forced to forfeit its first four games and are now 0-5.

Sahj Hossain paced Ol'Aces with six points in the opening eight minutes, but Kagman's Kimo Cepeda caught a late string of five markers to knot the count after the first canto, 12-all

Ol'Aces managed a slim 28-26 lead at halftime thanks in part to Luther Taylor's six points in the second period. Taylor kept it going after the pause as he added six more points in the third quarter to give the Ol'Aces a four-point lead, 46-42, heading into the final period.

Rollers 1's Eric Dela Rosa slashes to the hoop against Proa defenders during their U19 game in the Rotary caging last Friday at the TSL Sports Complex.
WALTER CEPEDA SUTHERLAND

Sensing being underestimated by the defending champions, Giovanni Olopai stepped up for Kagman and scrambled for 11 points in the clutch.

Ol'Aces tried to pull it together in the final minutes, but were out-hustled by the determined Kagman squad.

Olopai turned in a game-high 26 points, while Hossain had 20 in the loss.

Rollers 1 59, NMC Proa 41

In the second game, Rollers 1 routed NMC Proa, 59-41.

It was the Rollers second win in six games. Proa's fell to a 1-4 card.

Rollers duo Eric Dela Rosa and Daryl Suarez tallied four points apiece as their team built a 15-7 lead in the first quarter.

Proa's Paul Samson managed seven points in the second quarter but did not receive any support, as the Rollers pulled away at the break, 33-15. Rollers' Josh Norita led the charge with six markers in the second quarter.

Rollers spread the ball around in the third period, as they maintained a stout 45-26 margin with eight minutes to go in the game.

Rollers' lone scorer in double figures, Norita, finished with 10 points, while Proa's Samson led the field with 16.

The season continues tonight at 5pm when Rollers 2 (3-2) clashes with the Sonics (4-1).

First Game

Kagman 68 – Olopai 26, C. Kaipat 14, Mettao 10, Hambros 8, K. Cepeda 5, E Cepeda 2

Ol'Aces 66 – Hossain 20, DeVero 15, Taylor 12, Mizer 11, Dillay 8.

Scoring by quarters: 12-12, 27-29, 42-46, 68-66.

Second Game

Rollers 1 59 – Norita 10, DL-Guerrero 9, Dela Rosa 8, Cenir 6, Suarez 6, Francisco 6, Darag 6, Kwon 4, Taitano 4.

NMC Proa 41 – Samson 16, Lapuz 12, Palacios 10, Habijan 2, Madreo 1.

Scoring by quarters: 15-7, 33-15, 45-26, 59-41.

Echoserong Kamote, Gaian-B SEDA league leaders

Naked Fish Bar & Grill's Echoserong Kamote and Bar Gaia's Gaiana-B currently lead the pack in their Thursday B-Fanihi and B-Flame Tree divisions, respectively, following last week's games in the Saipan Electronic Dart Association.

Echoserong downed VFW Post 3457's Dutty Gunz (38-37), 9-6, at home to improve its win-loss record to 50-25.

The team maintained its two-game lead over Gaia's World B, which bested third-ranked SOS Akiramenai (35-25), 9-6, on the road at Es'y Kitchen.

In other results, Es'y's Kitchen Shooters (31-44) routed Oh Yeah! (22-53), 11-4, in an away match at Oleai Baech Bar & Grill; and Oleai's No Fear (34-26) defeated Sekid (27-48), 10-5, on the road at Jonny's Bar & Grill.

SOS's Manny Blas Jr. posted a 160 High In, while Dutty Gunz's Norman Camacho scored a 129 High Out in their respective matches.

Gaiana-B brushed off cellar dweller Why not, of Oleai, 12-3, at home to improve its card to 50-25.

D'Pirates Bar & Grill's Chagi Sang sits five games back in second place after being upset at home by Naked Fish's Team Na'Gupu (38-37), 7-8.

Third ranked Sabalu (43-32) went into Joe's Bar and defeated Skoregazzums (26-49), 10-5; and Joe's TBA One Shot (40-35) topped D'Pirates' Lucky Dart (37-38), 10-5, for a road win.

Lucky Dart's Aida Laniyo recorded a 122 High In this week. ***(Walter Cepdea Sutherland)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Naked Fish's Team Na'Gupu, shown here in a file photo, upset second-ranked Chagi Sang, 8-7, in their SEDA B-Flame Tree matchup at D'Pirates Bar & Grill last Thursday.

3 PAIRS

From Page 28

The list includes the tandems of Angie Ito and Andrew Galvez, Dick Guintu and Hannah Choi, and Ferdie Arago and Lani Bartolome. Ito and Galvez currently lead the eight-team field with their unbeaten 6-0 record. The pacesetters notched two wins in Week 3 and are a win away from sweeping the round-robin elimination.

Galvez and Ito's last match in their group will be against Hapi Gabriel and Malou Malasarte tomorrow night. A win will give the leaders the automatic finals berth, while a loss will still put them in the No. 1 seeding in the playoffs. Only the Top 4 teams will advance to the next round.

Guintu and Choi joined Galvez and Ito in the playoffs with the former holding a 4-1 record with two games left. Arago and Bartolome hold a 4-2 card to notch the third semis berth. Guintu and Choi's last two matches will be against Marlene Peraja and Macoi Aguda and Jerry Hibi and Annarose Omori. Arago and Bartolome will also challenge Peraja and Aguda in their last match.

Aguda and Peraja (2-2), Hibi and Omori (3-3), and Gabriel and Malasarte (2-3) will battle for the last semis berth this weekend. Mario Diola and Toshiko Obata (0-6) and Edwin Montoya and Cheng Saturno (1-6) are already eliminated.

In the mixed doubles lower A, only Gary Bandoja and Choi are assured of a semis spot. The duo owns a perfect 5-0 record with three games left in the nine-team field. A sweep of the round-robin competition will also give Bandoja and Choi an outright finals berth.

Three other teams have strong chances of making the semis cast. They are Malasarte and Robert Reyes (4-1) and Arago and Annette Quiambao and Guintu and Obata, who hold similar 3-1 slates. Galvez and Merlie Tolentino and Rodwealth Espana and Angie Ito are still in contention with their identical 3-3 cards.

Results of standings of the mixed doubles 40-and-above, BB, and CC divisions will be published in *Saipan Tribune*'s Wednesday issue.

RECORD

From Page 28

seconds faster than her 2010 winning time. She prevailed over Natasha Kuckuck (26:15) and Rebecca Iseman (26:17).

Ackerman logged 27:09 to reign in the girls U18, while other youth runners who had notable finishes in the weekend race were 10-year-old Logan Mister, 11-year-old John Auther, and 6-year-old Soleil Lamar. Mister recorded 26:14 to top the boys U10, while Lamar clocked in at 36:32 to prevail in the girls U10. Auther finished in the Top 10 overall, beating adult runners with his 25:19.

The weekend race was originally scheduled to start at 7pm, but began about 10 minutes later due to the huge turnout. Despite the late start, participants enjoyed a nice race, as good weather greeted them during the morning run.

"Mother Nature has always been good to us. In 11 years of doing this race, we had rain only one and it happened when almost all the runners had made it to the finish line," Saiki added.

This year's SIS Fun Run is supported by Subway, Mobil, Delta Management, Misoya, Dining and Bar 747, Marianas Eye Institute, Smile Marianas, Brother's Oriental Medicine Clinic, Mobil, PIC, Deloitte, Micronesian Marine, Fishing and Tackle, Mariana Resort, Auntie Song, 360, Ananas, Hyatt, ATOM'S, Sean and Anne, Saipan Grand Hotel, Fiesta Resort & Spa, Brabu, Marianas Medical Center, and Lollipops.

81 RUNNERS

From Page 28

Banzai trail, and returning to the starting line.

The MTB short course had the same route, but riders only did two laps. Joanne Salazar and Roxy Lamar finished in the Top 2 in the women's division, while Bernard Laborse reigned supreme in the men's category, beating Ronald Lanuza and Ricky Suba.

In the road race, Lewie Tenorio placed first ahead of Nap Dizon and Willy Barbo. Road bike participants also began the race at Banzai Cliff and cruised along Suicide Cliff, Bird Island, and Grotto before returning to Banzai. In the women's division, Esther Ada took the top spot, beating Juanita Fajardo and Sheryl Camacho.

Sixty-eight bikers joined the road and MTB races, while a mini race for 12 youth riders took place after the adults event. The bike race for kids was held around the pavilion at Banzai.

The weekend race aimed to raise funds for Carey's trip to the 2011 XTERRA World Championship in Maui, Hawaii next month.

"I would like to thank all participants for their support. Thank you also to the sponsors, volunteers, and parents of the youth bikers. I will do my best in representing the CNMI in Maui," Carey said.

The fundraiser was supported by Salomon, Suunto, Zoot, IT&E, Gold's Gym, Brabu Pharmacy, Hyatt Regency Saipan, Triple J Wholesale, Bike Pro, Ride NMI, Suzy Kindel, Randy Steele, and Kanae Quinn.

TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

MLB STANDINGS

AMERICAN LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
New York	91	60	.603	–
Boston	87	65	.572	4 1/2
Tampa Bay	85	67	.559	6 1/2
Toronto	77	75	.507	14 1/2
Baltimore	62	89	.411	29
Central Division				
x-Detroit	89	64	.582	–
Cleveland	75	75	.500	12 1/2
Chicago	74	78	.487	14 1/2
Kansas City	67	87	.435	22 1/2
Minnesota	59	92	.391	29
West Division				
Texas	88	65	.575	–
Los Angeles	83	69	.546	4 1/2
Oakland	69	84	.451	19
Seattle	63	89	.414	24 1/2

NATIONAL LEAGUE

East Division

	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Philadelphia	98	53	.649	–
Atlanta	87	66	.569	12
New York	73	80	.477	26
Washington	72	79	.477	26
Florida	69	84	.451	30
Central Division				
Milwaukee	90	63	.588	–
St. Louis	83	69	.546	6 1/2
Cincinnati	74	79	.484	16
Pittsburgh	68	85	.444	22
Chicago	67	86	.438	23
Houston	52	100	.342	37 1/2
West Division				
Arizona	88	65	.575	–
San Francisco	83	70	.542	5
Los Angeles	76	76	.500	11 1/2
Colorado	70	82	.461	17 1/2
San Diego	65	88	.425	23

x-clinched division

Yesterday's Games
Milwaukee 8, Cincinnati 1
Washington 4, Florida 3
N.Y. Mets 7, Atlanta 5
Houston 3, Chicago Cubs 2
San Francisco 12, Colorado 5
Arizona 5, San Diego 1
L.A. Dodgers 15, Pittsburgh 1
St. Louis 5, Philadelphia 0
Toronto 3, N.Y. Yankees 0
L.A. Angels 11, Baltimore 2
Tampa Bay 8, Boston 5
Chicago White Sox 10, Kansas City 5
Cleveland 6, Minnesota 5
Detroit 3, Oakland 0
Texas 3, Seattle 0

NFL STANDINGS

AMERICAN CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
New England	2	0	0	1.000	73	45
Buffalo	2	0	0	1.000	79	42
N.Y. Jets	2	0	0	.000	59	27
Miami	0	2	0	.000	37	61
South						
Houston	2	0	0	1.000	57	20
Jacksonville	1	1	0	.500	19	46
Tennessee	1	1	0	.500	40	29
Indianapolis	0	2	0	.000	26	61
North						
Baltimore	1	1	0	.500	48	33
Cincinnati	1	1	0	.500	49	41
Cleveland	1	1	0	.500	44	46
Pittsburgh	1	1	0	.500	31	35
West						
Oakland	1	1	0	.500	58	58
San Diego	1	1	0	.500	45	52
Denver	1	1	0	.500	44	45
Kansas City	0	2	0	.000	10	89

NATIONAL CONFERENCE

East

	W	L	T	Pct	PF	PA
Washington	2	0	0	1.000	50	35
Dallas	1	1	0	.500	51	51
Philadelphia	1	1	0	.500	62	48
N.Y. Giants	0	1	0	.000	14	28
South						
New Orleans	1	1	0	.500	64	55
Tampa Bay	1	1	0	.500	44	47
Atlanta	1	1	0	.500	47	61
Carolina	0	2	0	.000	44	58
North						
Green Bay	2	0	0	1.000	72	57
Detroit	2	0	0	1.000	75	23
Chicago	1	1	0	.500	43	42
Minnesota	0	2	0	.000	37	48
West						
San Francisco	1	1	0	.500	57	44
Arizona	1	1	0	.500	49	43
St. Louis	0	1	0	.000	13	31
Seattle	0	2	0	.000	17	57

Yesterday's Games
New Orleans 30, Chicago 13
Tennessee 26, Baltimore 13
Tampa Bay 24, Minnesota 20
Detroit 48, Kansas City 3
N.Y. Jets 32, Jacksonville 3
Buffalo 38, Oakland 35
Washington 22, Arizona 21
Pittsburgh 24, Seattle 0
Green Bay 30, Carolina 23
Cleveland 27, Indianapolis 19
Dallas 27, San Francisco 24, OT
Denver 24, Cincinnati 22
Houston 23, Miami 13
New England 35, San Diego 21
Atlanta 35, Philadelphia 31

BY THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LOCAL SCORES

UFO STANDINGS

Open

Namfrel/Proa	5	0
UPAA/Hoopaholics	6	1
Cabalen/Noni	4	1
Visminda/Satbahi	4	3
Bayani/Mobil	3	3
Ali'i Konflikt	4	4
Cavite/Andok's	2	5
NMBA/Mixed Blood	1	6
MDX/Blue Haus	1	7

11th Saipan International School 5K Fun Run

PHOTOS By ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Second overall finisher Dakota Hall, left, looks back at Michael Towle.

Mother and daughter Roxie and Soleil Lamar cross the finish line together.

Runners and dogs wait for the beginning of the race.

From left, Fred Camacho, Joshua Berger, and John Joyner pose for a group photo while waiting for the start of the race.

Saipan International School students join other runners at the starting line at Banzai Cliff during the 11th SIS 5K Fun Run last Saturday.

Runners head out of Banzai Cliff.

U18 top female finisher Tammy Ackerman.

Butch Sublemente nears the finish line of the race.

John Auther is all eyes at the finish line.

Mamiko Oshima-Berger is all smiles as she nears the finish line.

Rodgers, Packers beat Newton, Panthers

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Saipan Tribune
Sports

Rose hangs on to win BMW Championship

PAGE 25

MDX/Blue Haus stuns VisMinda

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

MDX/Blue Haus saved its best for last, pulling off an 80-60 upset over VisMinda/Satbahi in its final game in the UFO Inter-Organization Basketball Friendship League 2011 Bud Cup on Sunday night at the TSL Sports Complex.

The victory was the first for MDX, as it finished the round-robin regular season with a 1-7 record and placed last in the nine-team field. Despite the win, MDX is already out of contention for a playoff spot, while VisMinda, which dropped to a 4-3 mark, is assured of a seat in the next round.

The law of averages finally caught up with VisMinda, which registered its lowest point total in seven games against the already eliminated MDX.

Visminda had a lackluster offense right at the very beginning of the match, as it was held to only two field goals and six points in the opening quarter.

MDX had a better shooting night at the start of the game with Zack Babauta making two early triples to lift Blue Haus to a 16-6 advantage.

The Blue Haus-supported MDX continued to dominate VisMinda in the second quarter, as the former canned four more triples, two from Dexter Tenorio and one each from Alex Lauron and Babauta, while Ziddy Johanes chipped in seven markers. With the quartet teaming up on offense, MDX zoomed to a 41-18 lead at the break.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Alex Lauron is seen here going for an off-balanced shot during MDX's game against Cabalen in the UFO Bud Cup caging at the TSL Sports Complex. MDX played its final game last Sunday and stunned VisMinda/Satbahi, 80-60.

VisMinda still struggled in the second quarter and fell behind by 23 at halftime and though Marlon De Dios tried to pick up the team's scoring in the third, MDX kept pushing and maintained a 52-35 lead.

In the payoff canto, VisMinda started connecting on their triples, but the five conversions from downtown were not enough to save the team from its third loss.

Ben Lisua and Johanes top-scored for MDX with 16 apiece, while Babauta and Tenorio added 15 and 13, respectively. Lauron and Zack Diaz combined for 16 markers.

First Game

MAFEA/Ali'i Konflikt 101 – Esdrelon 19, Joyner 18, Aquino 15, Barrios 13, Talania 12, Camacho 12, Tumaquip 5, Guiab 4, Cruz 2.
NMBA/Mixed Blood 64 – Mungcal 33, Camacho 8, Montes 7, Roque 6, Detera 6, Timbal 2, Valiente 2.
Scoring by quarters: 34-18, 50-30, 78-44, 101-64.

Second Game

MDX/Blue Haus 80 – Lisua 16, Johanes 16, Babauta 15, Tenorio 13, Lauron 9, Z. Diaz 7, Palacios 4.
VisMinda/Satbahi 60 – De Dios 14, Barbo 8, Sison 8, Manalo 7, Camacho 6, Santos 6, Mangali 3, Peredo 2.
Scoring by quarters: 16-6, 41-18, 52-35, 80-60.

De Dios was the lone double-figure scorer for VisMinda with 14 points.

MAFEA 101, NMBA 64

In the curtain raiser, MAFEA/Ali'i Konflikt crushed NMBA/Mixed Blood, 101-64.

MAFEA/Ali'i Konflikt got off to a jackrabbit start, scoring 34 points in the opening quarter to take control of the match en route to a 37-point win, its biggest winning margin. MAFEA/Ali'i Konflikt, which is already in the playoffs, finished the round-robin competition with an even 4-4 record. NMBA fell to a 1-6 mark, joining MDX in the showers.

With MAFEA having a field day on offense, six of the nine players who suited up in the weekend match scored in double digits. Elmer Esdrelon had 19, Jawn Joyner nailed 18, Bernardo Aquino added 15, J.R. Barrios logged 13, and Badong Camacho and Brandon Talania contributed 12 apiece.

Randy Mungcal was the lone bright spot on NMBA's side, as he exploded for a game-high 33 markers.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Dick Guintu serves during his and Hannah Choi's mixed doubles AA game against Angie Ito and Andrew Galvez in Week 2 of the 2011 Shirley's Badminton Classic at the TSL Sports Complex.

3 pairs gain semis seats at Shirley's tournament

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Three pairs are already assured of semis tickets in the mixed doubles AA division of the 2011 Shirley's Badminton Classic after Week 3 of the competition at the TSL Sports Complex.

See 3 PAIRS on **Page 26**

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Participants in the SIS 5K Fun Run leave the starting line at Banzai Cliff last Saturday.

Record field in SIS 5K Fun Run

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The 11th Saipan International School 5K Fun Run drew a record number with more than 200 runners joining the race last Saturday.

"We had 199 registered runners, but the number is more than 200, as there were several others who did the course, but did not officially register," SIS' Mili Saiki said.

XTERRA World-bound Butch Sublemente was the overall top finisher of the fun run course that started and ended at the Banzai Cliff with runners heading to as far as the Cowtown Raceway. Sublemente timed in at 22 minutes and 10 seconds, about two minutes behind the 2010 winning time of last year's champion Ketson "Jack" Kabiriel.

Completing the Top 3 were SIS student Dakota Hall and Michael Towle, who had a neck-and-neck race to the finish line. Hall submitted 22:56 seconds against Towle' 22:57. Hall was the age group winner in the boys U18 division.

Middle distance runner Tammy Ackerman ruled the girls U18, while Mamiko Oshima-Berger was the first women's finisher and defended her title.

Mamiko Oshima-Berger ran with her dog and timed in at 24:28, two

See RECORD on **Page 26**

81 riders join Mieko fundraiser

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

The 2011 Mieko Carey Bike Race Fundraiser lured 81 riders with familiar faces crossing the finish line first at Banzai Cliff last Sunday.

In the MTB long course, Butch Sublemente completed the four laps of Banzai loop in less than an hour to rule the men's division. Susan Marchitti won the women's category. Organizers did not keep track of the times of the finishers and winners were decided based on who made it to Banzai Cliff first. Rounding out the Top 3 in the men's division were Anthony Aguilar and Ken Pierson.

The MTB long course had Sublemente and company leaving Banzai Cliff, heading to the Last Command Post, passing the dumpsite, pedaling down Cowtown Raceway, going to the

See 81 RIDERS on **Page 26**

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Butch Sublemente is seen here in a file photo during a local race early this year. He competed in the Mieko Carey fundraiser last Sunday and won the MTB long course race.